

For commercial accounts all backflow devices within the building's internal plumbing system should be inspected annually. The city only requires record of the inspection for backflow devices protecting the domestic water service line, fire lines and irrigation systems. Listed below are examples as to why backflow devices are recommended on different internal applications, which were taken from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources website:

Restaurants

- In 1979, two high school students in Seattle, W A, became ill, showing symptoms of copper poisoning after drinking soft drinks from a dispensing machine in a restaurant. The backflow of carbon dioxide from the soft drink dispensing machine was considered the likely cause of the copper release (AWW A PNW S, 1995).
- In 1987, a child in Minnesota suffered acute copper toxicity when backflow from a carbon dioxide machine contaminated a restaurant's potable system (AWWA PNW S, 1995).

Office Buildings

- In 1989, a backflow event at an Ohio government office building occurred after crews worked on the air conditioning system . Twelve individuals became ill after ingesting water that had been contaminated with Acid Blue 9, an algae-retarding chemical (AWWA PNW S, 1995)

Other Commercial Sites

- In 1994, a number of individuals attending an Ohio convention got sick with giardiasis, spread by an ice machine contaminated by a cross-connection to a sewage drain (AWWA PNW S, 1995)

For additional information please visit www.dnr.mo.gov