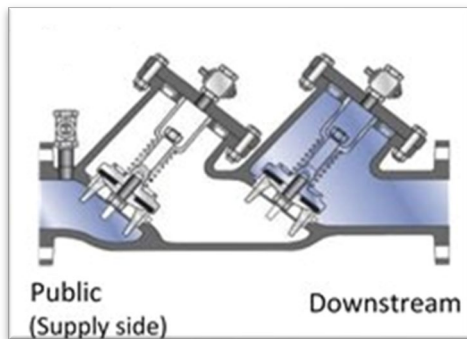


## CROSS CONNECTION—DOUBLE CHECK VALVE



Backflow from non-potable sources to a potable water supply can occur if there is a sudden drop in the water pressure. There are many cases throughout the United States where unintended backflow took place and caused a hazardous condition to the rest of the water system.

There are different types of backflow devices that can be used and choosing a device is based on the identified risk to the water system. One of the most common is the double check valve (DC).

DC's are typically the appropriate solution for low hazard conditions (fire lines with no chemical additives, furnace water supply lines, or filter backwash lines). A double check valve assembly consists of two independently operating spring-loaded check valves that protect against both backpressure and back siphonage.

Double check assemblies should be installed at a location allowing access to the device for maintenance and testing from floor level. The device cannot be subjected to flooding, excessive heat, or freezing.

All backflow devices should be tested on an annual basis by a certified technician to ensure protection of the community's drinking water supply. Backflow devices are regulated by the Uniform Plumbing Code and should never be retrofitted as it renders the device invalid.

Questions on backflow? Please contact Becky Hardin at [rebekah.hardin@amwater.com](mailto:rebekah.hardin@amwater.com).

