

Backflow Prevention Terms



AS/NZS 3500	See Australian New Zealand Standards 3500.
Australian New Zealand Standards 3500	The Australian New Zealand Standards 3500 provides the guidelines for installing and maintaining a backflow prevention device and is consistent with Sydney Water's Backflow Prevention Policy.
Back pressure	The difference between the pressure within any water service and a higher pressure within any vessel or pipework to which it is connected. For example, a customer is using water at a higher pressure than the pressure supplied by Sydney Water.
Backflow	Flow in a direction contrary to the normal or intended direction. The unintended flow of water from a potentially polluted source into a potable water supply.
Backflow Prevention Device	A device to prevent backflow. There are a number of different devices including a reduced pressure zone device, a registered air gap and a testable double check valve.
Backflow Prevention Device Inspection and Maintenance Report	The form, which backflow accredited plumber completes to certify the correct commissioning and function of the backflow device.
Plumbing Code of Australia	Government legislation to provide uniform administration and technical requirements for the installation of plumbing and drainage in Australia.
Backsiphonage	Backsiphonage occurs when the water supply pressure falls below atmospheric pressure.
Containment device	A backflow prevention device installed at the water meter(s) on the property boundary, to prevent backflow from within the property.
Contaminant	Any solid, liquid or gas with potential to enter or pollute the potable water supply.
Cross connection	Any connection or arrangements between the drinking water supply system connected to the water main or any fixture, which may under certain conditions enable non-drinking water or other substances to enter the drinking water supply system.
Individual backflow protection	A backflow prevention device installed at the water connection to a fixture or appliance.
Standpipe	A rigidly supported vertical length of pipe emerging from the ground with a tap or valve, serving as an outdoor water supply point.
Non-drinking water	Water is deemed non-drinking if there is potential for contamination from an unprotected source.
Drinking water	Water which is suitable for human consumption.
Zone backflow protection	A backflow prevention device installed at the connection to specified sections of a plumbing system within a building or facility.