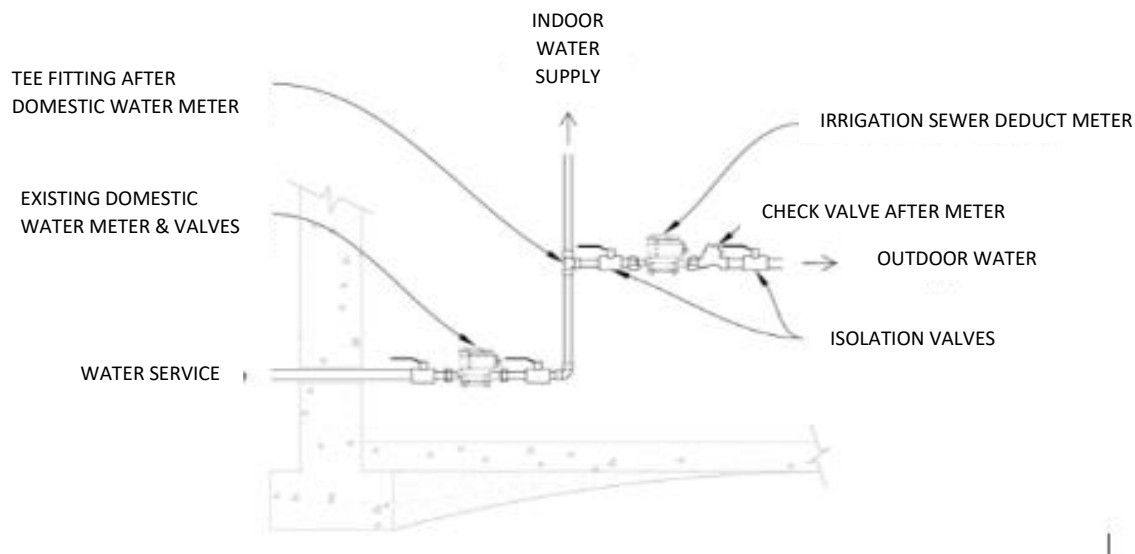


Primary Meter: The primary meter is the meter through which all water to the account flows and is measured. The primary meter is used to calculate the total water and, if applicable, wastewater charges for a defined billing period.

Deduct Meter: The deduct meter is located after the primary meter and meters water that has been measured by the Primary Meter and does not enter the municipal wastewater system. Water measured by the deduct meter is deducted from the total water measured by the Primary Meter to calculate the net sewer charge.

Backflow Prevention & Cross Connection

What is a cross-connection?



A cross-connection occurs whenever the drinking water supply is or could be in contact with potential sources of pollution or contamination. Cross-connections exist in piping arrangements or equipment that allows the drinking water to come in contact with a pollutant in the event of a backflow.

What is a backflow?

Backflow is the reverse of the water flow in the drinking water distribution lines. This backward flow of water can occur when the pressure created by an irrigation system or home equipment such as a boiler or air-conditioning is higher than the water pressure inside the water distribution line (backpressure), or when the pressure in the distribution line drops due to routine occurrences such as water main breaks or heavy water demand causing the water to flow backward inside the water distribution system (backsiphonage). Every water customer has a responsibility to help prevent backflow.

What can I do to help prevent a cross-connection?

Without the proper protection, something as simple as a garden hose has the potential to contaminate or pollute the drinking water lines in your house. There are simple steps you can take to prevent such hazards:

- **NEVER** submerge a hose in soapy water buckets, pet watering containers, pool, tubs, sinks, drains or chemicals.
- **NEVER** attached a hose to a garden sprayer without the proper backflow preventer.
- Install a hose bib vacuum breaker in any threaded water fixture.
- Identify and be aware of potential cross-connections to your water line.
- Purchase appliances and equipment with a backflow preventer
- Install backflow prevention devices or assemblies for all high and moderate hazard connections such as boilers and irrigation devices.

If you believe a cross-connection exists at your property, have your plumbing system surveyed for cross-connections. For more information, contact the Harwich Water Department at 508-432-0304.