



If you own a business or multi-dwelling such as a unit, you may be required to have a backflow prevention device installed at your property.

If you already have, you may be required to have it tested every year to ensure it's working properly.

It's important because backflow – which can occur when there's a sudden differential in water pressure – can result in contaminated water reversing out of a property's water system and back into our drinking water supply.

Our audit teams are constantly conducting random checks to ensure the compliance that's so vital to our ability to provide clean, safe drinking water.

You might think this just applies to large-scale industrial businesses, but everyone has an obligation to understand whether their business or unit is affected.

Contact us

For more information about backflow prevention, go to www.powerwater.com.au and search for 'backflow prevention'.

Got a question for us?

Email backflowprevention@powerwater.com.au

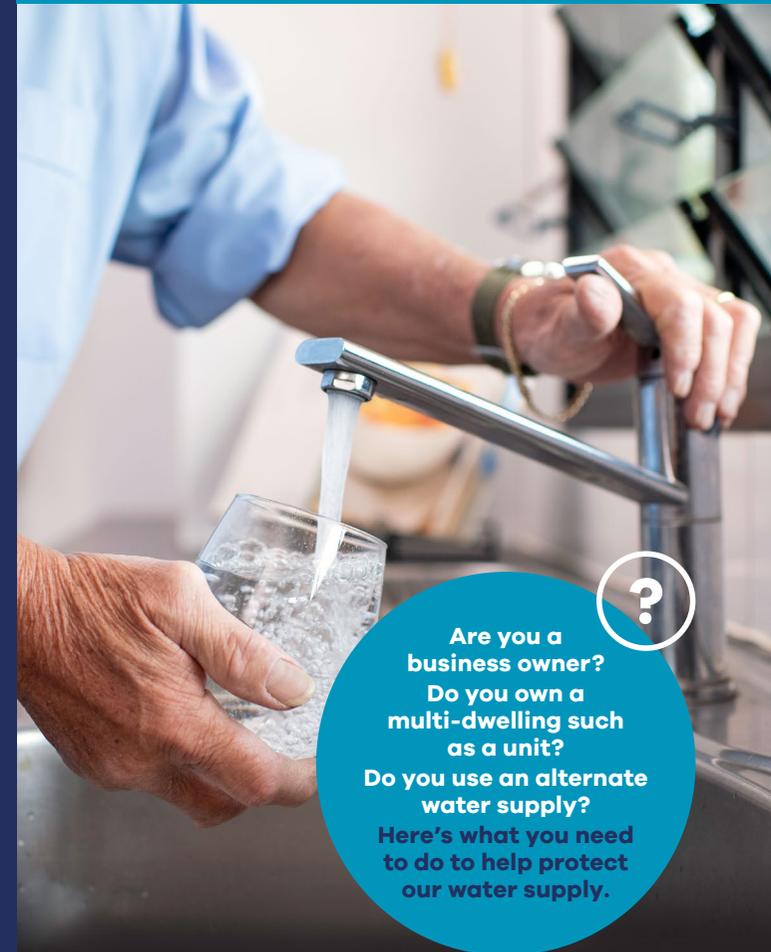
Phone 1800 245 092



PowerWater

Backflow prevention

We all have a role to play to protect our drinking water

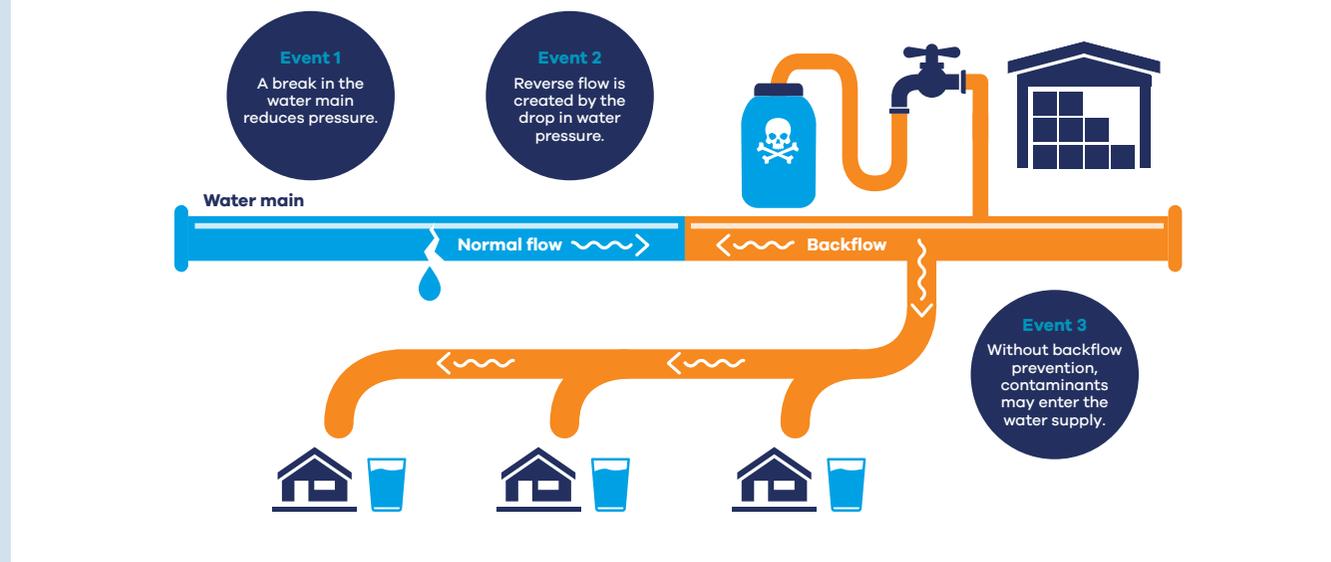


**Are you a business owner?
Do you own a multi-dwelling such as a unit?
Do you use an alternate water supply?**
Here's what you need to do to help protect our water supply.

When we turn on the tap – for a glass of water or to take a shower – we do so with confidence that our water is clean and safe to use and drink.

That's because Power and Water has a range of policies and procedures in place to prevent backflow and ensure that everyone in the Northern Territory has access to clean and safe water.

Backflow is a threat to our water quality – and we all have a role to play in managing it.



What is backflow?

Backflow is the unwanted reverse flow of water from a property back into the water supply. In simple terms, used water that may be contaminated goes back into our drinking water and could end up in someone's glass.

This can occur when there is a sudden differential in water pressure, such as when there is a break in a water main, when a large volume of water is pumped from the main during a fire, or when a property has a higher pressure than the water supply system.

These backflow events cause water that may be contaminated from common business or residential activities to be drawn back into the water supply.

A severe backflow incident can cause contaminants to enter our drinking water and may endanger a person's health, or in extreme cases, a person's life.

How can we prevent it?

The best way to prevent backflow is for potentially 'at-risk' properties to install and maintain a suitable device.

To determine whether your business or multi-dwelling is 'at-risk', you'll need a backflow accredited plumber to assess your hazard level. 'Medium' and 'high' risk properties must have a testable backflow prevention device installed.

If your property is deemed 'low' risk, you may still need to install a device.

Importantly, these devices may need to be tested every year to ensure they work.

What do I need to do?

If you are a business owner, own a multi-dwelling or use a dual water source, it is important that you engage a plumber as soon as possible to determine your next steps.

A backflow accredited plumber will determine your hazard level, install a backflow prevention device if you need one, or complete the required annual testing if you already have one.

Our audit teams are conducting random checks to ensure we're all compliant.

Together, we can ensure that all Territorians have access to clean and safe drinking water.



To learn more about your obligations, visit the [Power and Water website at www.powerwater.com.au](http://www.powerwater.com.au) and search for 'backflow prevention'