



Backflow Prevention & the CT Dental Office

The CT Department of Public Health (DPH) requires all CT dental offices to have backflow prevention devices installed. Furthermore, those devices can be (and have been) the subject of inspections by local water utility companies. It is important for you as a CT dentist to understand what is required prior to being inspected.

What is a backflow prevention device? Quite simply, a backflow prevention device is used to prevent back-siphonage of contaminated fluids into the public water supply.

What specifically does CT require? The CT DPH Fact Sheet on Backflow Prevention at Dental Offices (link below) provides information on state requirements. However, it is important to note that a local water utility always has the option of having policies that are more stringent than the State's requirements.

How can I find out what's required in my area? If you are unsure about the backflow prevention device requirements in your area, please contact your local water utility company. The links to some of the larger water utilities in the state are listed below.

Useful references:

- CT DPH Fact Sheet on Backflow Prevention at Dental Offices:
<http://www.csda.com/PracticeManagement/DEPBackflowPreventionFactSheet.pdf>
- CT Department of Public Health Drinking Water Section:
http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3139&q=387304&dphNav_GID=1824&dphPNavCtr=|; phone number (860) 509-7333

Various CT Water Utility Companies (yours may not be listed):

- Link to the Regional Water Authority (serves greater New Haven area):
<http://www.rwater.com/>
- Link to MDC (serves greater Hartford area): <http://www.themdc.com/>
- Link to ConnecticutWater (serves mostly eastern CT): <http://www.ctwater.com/>
- Aquarion Water Company (serves Fairfield, New Haven, Hartford, Litchfield, Middlesex and New London counties): <http://www.aquarion.com/index.cfm>