

SOQUEL CREEK WATER DISTRICT
BACKFLOW PREVENTION AND CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL
POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Adopted by Board of Directors on 9/01/15

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy and procedure handbook is to provide information necessary for Soquel Creek Water District (the District) to carry out a backflow prevention program which will provide protection for the public within the water system.

Backflow is the contamination of the public water distribution system when water or other substances flow back into the distribution system from an uncontrolled source.

Soquel Creek Water District, as the water purveyor within District boundaries has the primary responsibility for maintaining the quality of water within its system.

AUTHORITY

The backflow prevention program defined in this policy has been established under the provisions and authority of California Code of Regulations Title 17 State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water Division 1. State Department of Health Services Chapter 5. Sanitation (Environmental) Subchapter 1. Engineering (Sanitary) Group 4. Drinking Water Supplies and Soquel Creek Water District Ordinance 13-01. California Code of Regulations Title 17, §7584 inclusive makes it mandatory that water suppliers protect the public water supply from contamination by implementation of a backflow prevention program.

Soquel Creek Water District Ordinance 13-01 establishes that required backflow prevention assemblies will be installed, repaired, and tested at the expense of the customer. It also gives the authority to the Backflow Prevention Program Specialist to determine whether a backflow prevention assembly is required in accordance with the potential hazard existing within the property. It gives authority to the District to conduct property inspections to determine the need for a backflow assembly and for discontinuance of service for non-compliance.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE BACKFLOW PREVENTION AND CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

Soquel Creek Water District Backflow Prevention and Cross Control Program shall be defined and implemented according to the provisions of this Policy and Procedures document.

1. POLICY OF CONTAINMENT

In backflow prevention it is important to understand the line of authority that the water purveyor has regarding its own responsibility and where that responsibility ends. There are two types of system protection to be aware of. The first of these is CONTAINMENT. Containment is the prevention of water, which has passed out of the purveyor's system, from coming back into the system by way of a backflow prevention method. ISOLATION is the second method of protection. It refers to internal (on a customer's premises) protection and is usually the responsibility of the local health agency and the customer. Since the District has no jurisdiction beyond the water meter, it would be prudent for the District to require proper protection of the public water system at that line of containment if potential for contamination exists. The District will not seek to identify or eliminate actual or potential plumbing cross connections within the customer's premises.

Maintaining backflow protection at the point of service delivery protects the public water supply 1) regardless of what operations take place on the customer's premises, 2) regardless of changes made to the private plumbing, and 3) regardless of changes in property tenancy or use.

This policy statement establishes the requirement that existing backflow prevention assemblies, on commercial / industrial properties, continue to be maintained and tested regardless of change of occupancy

2. FACILITIES OR ACTIVITIES REQUIRING BACKFLOW PREVENTION

Backflow prevention requirements for all service connections shall be determined by the following criteria:

- A) SPECIFIED FACILITIES OR ACTIVITIES: When any of the following activities are conducted on premises served by the public potable water system, a potential hazard to the public potable water supply SHALL be presumed, and a backflow prevention method of the type specified for the activity must be utilized or installed at the service connection for that premises.

ACTIVITYASSEMBLY

1. Animal clinics and animal grooming shops:	RP
2. Any premises where a cross-connection exists:	RP
3. Automotive repair with steam cleaner, acid cleaning equipment, or other chemical facilities:	RP
4. Auxiliary water systems (including cisterns with direct connection to potable water system (except Laundry to Landscape):	RP or AG
5. Bottling Plants, beverage or chemical:	RP
6. Breweries:	RP
7. Buildings greater than three (3) stories or greater than 34 feet in height from curb level:	RP
8. Premises with potable water storage tanks:	RP
9. Premises with landscape fountains, ponds, or baptismal tanks:	RP
10. Buildings with sewage ejectors:	RP
11. Bulk propane distributing facilities:	RP
12. Canneries, packing houses, and reduction plants:	RP
13. Car wash facilities:	RP
14. Industrial fluid systems including steam generation, and centralized heating and air conditioning facilities:	RP
15. Chemical plants:	RP
16. Chemically treated potable or non-potable water systems including certain solar hot water systems:	RP
17. Civil works (government owned or operated facilities not open for inspection by the Water District):	RP
18. Cisterns (See Water Tanks also)	
a) Any capacity interconnected with potable water system:	HBVB & RP/DC or AG
b) 300 gallons or less and not interconnected with potable water system:	HBVB
c) Greater than 300 gallons but less than 5,000 gallons & not interconnected with potable water system:	HBVB (with annual inspection conducted by District)
d) 5,000 gallons total capacity or more:	RP/DC or AG

<p>RP= Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assembly DC= Double Check Backflow Prevention Assembly AG=Air Gap Separation at point of connection HBVB= Hose Bib Vacuum Breaker on all exterior hose bibs</p>
--

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>ASSEMBLY</u>
19. Commercial laundries:	RP
20. Construction meters:	RP
21. Dairies and cold storage:	RP
22. Dry cleaners:	RP
23. Dye Works:	RP
24. Film Processing laboratories:	RP
25. Food processing plants:	RP
26. Holding tank disposal stations:	RP
27. Hospitals and mortuaries:	RP
28. Medical and dental buildings, sanitariums, convalescent homes engaged in the diagnostic care or treatment of human illness:	RP
29. Irrigation systems (not to include single family detached residences):	RP
a) Dedicated irrigation services	RP
b) Premises with irrigated areas exceeding 5,000 sq.ft.	
c) Premises having combined domestic and irrigation services larger than one inch in diameter:	RP
30. Laboratories using toxic materials:	RP
31. Manufacturing, processing, and fabricating plants using toxic or non-toxic materials:	RP
32. Mobile home parks:	RP
33. Motion picture studios:	RP
34. Multiple townhouse, condominium and apartment units exceeding three units.	RP
35. Multiple services-interconnected:	RP
36. Nurseries	RP
37. Paper and paper production plants:	RP
38. Plating plants:	RP
39. Portable insecticide and herbicide spray tanks:	RP or AG
40. Power plants:	RP
41. Radioactive materials processing facilities:	RP
42. Rainwater Catchment-interconnected with potable water System (See Auxiliary Water System and Water Tanks)	RP or AG
a) not interconnected:	HBVB
43. Recreational vehicle (RV) parks or other facilities with RV hook-ups:	RP

RP= Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assembly
DC= Double Check Backflow Prevention Assembly
AG=Air Gap Separation at point of connection
HBVB= Hose Bib Vacuum Breaker on all exterior hose bibs

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>ASSEMBLY</u>
44. Restricted, classified or other closed facilities:	RP
45. Sand and gravel plants:	RP
46. Schools and Colleges:	RP
47. Sewage and storm drain facilities:	RP
48. Shopping malls	RP
49. Street sweepers:	RP or AG
50. Water trucks, pesticide/herbicide control trucks, water tanks 5,000 gallons or larger (including cisterns), or hydraulic sewer cleaning equipment :	RP or AG
51. Graywater Systems including toilet supply (except Laundry to Landscape):	RP or AG

RP= Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assembly
 DC= Double Check Backflow Prevention Assembly
 AG=Air Gap Separation at point of connection
 HBVB= Hose Bib Vacuum Breaker on all exterior hose bibs

B. BUILDINGS WITH UNSPECIFIED USE: Any commercial / industrial facility without a defined use or identified occupant, shall be protected by a minimum of a Reduced Pressure Principle Assembly (RP).

C. CASE BY CASE DETERMINATION: The District shall determine backflow prevention requirements for all other facilities or activities not specified herein. This determination will be by a case by case evaluation of the degree of hazard present and shall require the customer to comply with all other provisions within this policy.

D. SERVICE SIZE: Due to the potential volume of water associated with a backflow incident, any service (domestic or other) larger than two (2) inches in diameter shall be protected by a minimum of a Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assembly (RP)

INSTALLATION OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES

1. APPROVED ASSEMBLIES

Only backflow prevention assemblies which have been approved by the District shall be acceptable for installation by a water user. It shall be the responsibility of each customer, at his/her own expense, to furnish, install, and keep in good working order and safe condition, any and all protective assemblies required by the District. As set forth in Section 7603, Title 17 of

the California Administrative Code, backflow prevention assemblies shall be installed as close as is practical to the user's connection. The District shall have the final authority in determining the required location of a backflow prevention assembly. There are three types of backflow prevention methods authorized by the Soquel Creek Water District:

A. AIR GAP SEPARATION (AG)

The term 'air gap separation' shall mean a physical separation between the free flowing discharge end of a potable water supply pipeline and an open or non-pressure receiving vessel. An approved Air Gap shall be at least double the diameter of the supply pipe measured vertically above the overflow rim of the vessel – in no case less than 1 inch (2.54 cm) An air gap separation shall be located on the user's side of, and as close to the service connection as is practical. All piping from the service connection to the receiving tank shall be above grade and be entirely visible unless otherwise approved by the District No water use shall be provided from any point between the service connection and the air gap separation

B. REDUCED PRESSURE PRINCIPLE BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY (RP)

The term 'reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly' shall mean an assembly containing two independently acting, approved check valves together with a hydraulically operating mechanically independent pressure differential relief valve located between the check valves and at the same time below the first check valve. The unit shall include properly located test cocks and tightly closing shut off valves at each end of the assembly. The assembly is designed to protect against a non-health (i.e. pollutant) or a health (i.e. i.e. contaminant).

An approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly shall be installed on the user's side of and as close to the service connection as is practical. The assembly shall be installed in accordance with Soquel Creek Water District standard details and specifications. The assembly shall be installed so that it is readily accessible for maintenance and testing. Water supplied from any point between the service connection and the RP assembly shall be protected in a manner approved by the District.

C. DOUBLE CHECK BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY (DC)

The term 'Double Check Valve Backflow Prevention Assembly' shall mean an assembly composed of two independently acting, approved check valves, including tightly closing resilient seated shut-off valves attached at each end of the assembly and fitted with properly located resilient seated test cocks.

An approved Double Check Backflow Prevention Assembly shall be installed on the user's side of, and as close to the service connection as is practical. The assembly shall be installed in accordance with Soquel Creek Water District standard details and specifications. The assembly shall be installed so that it is readily available for maintenance and testing. Water supplied from any point between the service connection and the DC Assembly shall be protected in a manner approved by the District.

2. DEGREE OF HAZARD

The method of protection and installation that will be sufficient to protect against a potential hazard will be determined by the District.

3. SIZING

As a minimum, backflow prevention assemblies shall be sized equivalent to the size of the water meter. When a customer desires a continuous water supply during testing and repairs, two or more backflow prevention assemblies may be installed PARALLEL to one another at the service connection. The sum of the maximum rated flows of two parallel assemblies must be as great as or greater than the maximum rated flow of the meter supplying water to the assemblies.

4. INITIAL TEST

The customer will notify the District Cross-Connection Control Specialist immediately after installation of an assembly. The District will schedule, usually within one week, a final inspection and authorize an initial assembly test to assure proper installation and operation. The initial test shall be performed, at customer expense, by a tester from the District's list of certified testers. No assembly shall be placed in service if it is not functioning as required.

5. RETROACTIVE INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

The provisions of this policy shall apply to all new water customers and all water customers currently existing prior to the enactment date of this policy.

All existing water services will be subject to a survey by the District to identify water user premises where service protection is required. The selection of service connections to be surveyed will be determined by the Water District and will be based upon suspected, actual or potential, hazards. Backflow prevention assemblies installed prior to enactment of this policy, which do not comply with current requirements, shall be replaced at the customer's expense with assemblies which comply with the standards set forth herein.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING BACKFLOW PROTECTION

1. RESTRICTED OR CLASSIFIED SERVICES

Whenever a representative of the District is refused admission to a property for the purpose of inspecting it for actual or potential cross connections, the District may take one of two lines of action a) refuse to serve water to the property; orb) require maximum backflow protection at the meter. This maximum protection will be in the form of an Air Gap separation or an approved Reduced Pressure Principle backflow prevention assembly.

2. DUAL SERVICES

A dual service is defined as being a condition whereby two or more water services are provided to a single piece of property (excluding fire protection services). When two or more activities requiring backflow prevention are conducted on the same premises the most restrictive backflow prevention method required for any of the activities conducted on the premises shall be required at all service connections to the facility. The order of most restrictive to least restrictive backflow prevention methods shall be:

1. air gap (AG)
2. reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly (RP)

3. USE OF HYDRANTS

The District does not allow the use of water directly from fire hydrants for flushing storm and sanitary sewers and similar uses by means of County Sanitation Trucks, and for use at construction sites, except when approved by the Engineering Manager and/or General Manager. When this is permitted, it is mandatory that an approved Air Gap or a portable RP be provided to protect the public water supply. Direct connection from hydrant to sewer flushing is NOT permitted.

4. LOW WATER PRESSURE

Section 64602 (a) of Title 17 specifies that the minimum distribution pressure at the point of delivery shall be 20 p.s.i. (pounds per square inch). With a low distribution pressure a customer may find it necessary to use a booster pump within the property in order to adequately serve the needs of the customer. If a customer does install a booster pump it shall also be required that the customer install an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly. In this situation, it is recommended that the customer install either a low flow cut-off switch; or a low pressure cut-off switch that shuts the pump off when the suction pressure is reduced to a minimum of 20 p.s.i. The purpose of the backflow preventer is to prevent water within

the customer's system from being back pressured into the District's system.

5. CRITICAL SERVICES

Critical services are water services where the water can't be shut off, even for a few minutes, at any time. Typically, critical services are found at hospitals, emergency care centers, film processing laboratories, industrial plants where the water is critical to processing or cooling. For a critical service, the requirement is that there be two services provided to the user's property with proper backflow protection installed on each service; or one service with two or more backflow prevention assemblies installed parallel to one another at the service connection.

FIRE SYSTEMS

1. A fire suppression system with a direct connection to the public potable water system must be protected in a manner commensurate with the hazard. Fire systems shall be classified and protected as follows:

- (i) CLASS I - Direct connections from domestic water mains only; no pumps or reservoirs; no physical connections to other water supplies; no anti-freeze or other additives of any kind; and all sprinkler drains discharged to atmosphere. (see note)
- (ii) CLASS II - Same as Class I, except that booster pumps may be installed in the service lines from the street mains. A connection for a fire pumper engine may also be provided. (see note)
- (iii) CLASS III Direct connection to public water supply main, with on-site storage or pressure tanks. All storage facilities are filled by or connected to the public water supply. (RPDA required).
- (iv) CLASS IV Directly supplied from public mains similar to Classes I and II, with an unapproved auxiliary water supply on or available within 1700 feet of the pumper connection. (RPDA required)
- (v) CLASS V Directly supplied from public mains and interconnected with unapproved auxiliary supplies, such as; pumps taking suction from reservoirs exposed to contamination, or from rivers, ponds, wells, or industrial water systems where anti-freeze or other additives are used. (RPDA required)
- (vi) CLASS VI- Fire suppression systems supplied from both an industrial water system and the public water system, with or without gravity

storage or pump suction tanks. (Requirement determined by survey of premises)

NOTE: Class I and II, two inches or smaller, systems do not require above ground backflow prevention assemblies; however, a double check valve assembly must be installed as part of the detector check meter system per Soquel Creek Water District standard detail.

2. Any fire service larger than two (2) inches in diameter shall be protected by a minimum of a double check detector assembly (above ground installation) unless otherwise approved by the District.

2. Where fire services and domestic/commercial/industrial services are installed to the same premises, all service connections must be protected to the highest degree applicable to any individual service to that premises.

WATER SYSTEM SURVEY

1. NEW SERVICES

The Water District shall review all requests for new service to determine if backflow protection is necessary. Plans and specifications must be submitted to the Water District for review of possible cross-connection hazards as a condition of installation of service. If it is determined that a backflow prevention assembly is necessary to protect the public water system, the required assembly must be installed before service will be granted.

2. EXISTING SERVICES

The Water District may require an on-site inspection to evaluate cross-connection hazards. The Water District will contact each affected water user, by phone or in writing, requesting an appointment for inspection. . Any water user who cannot or will not allow an on-site inspection of his piping system shall be required to install the backflow prevention assembly the Water District considers necessary.

3. HIGH HAZARDS

The Water District may, at its discretion, require a re-inspection for cross-connection hazards of any premise to which it serves water. The Water District will contact each affected water user to arrange an inspection appointment. Any water user who cannot or will not allow an on-site inspection of his piping system shall be required to install the backflow prevention assembly the Water District deems necessary. As required by Title 17, special consideration shall be given to the premises of the following types of users:

- a) Premises where substances harmful to health are handled under pressure in a manner which could permit their entry into the public water system. This includes chemical or biological process waters

and water from public water supplies which have deteriorated in sanitary quality.

- b) Premises having an auxiliary water supply, unless the auxiliary supply is accepted as an additional source by the water supplier and is approved by the health agency.
- c) Premises that have internal cross connections that are not abated to the satisfaction of the water supplier or the health agency.
- d) Premises where cross connections are likely to occur and entry is restricted so that cross-connection inspections cannot be made with sufficient frequency or at sufficiently short notice to assure that cross connections do not exist.
- e) Premises having a repeated history of cross connections being established or re-established.

4. POLLUTION / CONTAMINATION

Based on the evaluation, potential health hazards (if any) will be generally categorized as follows;

POLLUTION: (non-health) an actual or potential threat to the physical facilities of the public water supply system or the public water supply which, although not dangerous to health, would constitute a nuisance or be aesthetically objectionable, or could cause damage to the system or its appurtenances.

CONTAMINATION (health) any condition, device or practice which, in the judgment of the Water District, may create a danger to the health and well being of the public water users.

In keeping with the previously defined "policy of containment" identified POLLUTION and CONTAMINATION hazards will require service line protection with a minimum of a reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly. The Water District, however, shall not be responsible for abatement of cross connections which may exist within the user's premises.

5. USER SUPERVISOR

At each premises where it is necessary, in the opinion of the District, a user supervisor shall be designated by and at the expense of the water user. This user supervisor shall be responsible for the monitoring of the backflow prevention assemblies and for the avoidance of cross connections. In the event of contamination or pollution of the drinking water system due to a cross-connection on the premises, the District shall be promptly notified by the user supervisor so that appropriate measures may be taken to overcome

the contamination. The water user shall inform the District of the user supervisor's identity, on as a minimum, an annual basis and whenever change occurs.

NOTIFICATION, NON-COMPLIANCE AND DISCONTINUATION OF SERVICE

1. REASONS FOR DISCONTINUATION OF SERVICE

The District may refuse or discontinue service;

- a) until there has been installed on the customer's piping an approved backflow prevention assembly of the required type if one is required.
- b) where the District has been denied access to the customer's premises to make an evaluation. (also see RESTRICTED OR CLASSIFIED SERVICES)
- c) where there is a direct or indirect connection between the District system and a sewer line.
- d) where there is an unprotected direct or indirect connection between the District system and a system or equipment containing contaminants.
- e) where there is an unprotected direct or indirect connection between the District system and an auxiliary water system.
- f) where there is a situation which presents an immediate health hazard to the District system.
- g) if a customer fails to comply with the installation of a required backflow assembly or bypasses or removes the backflow prevention assembly, or fails to comply with requirements related to testing of backflow assemblies
- h) if a customer cannot be immediately located to correct a problem.

2. NOTIFICATION

Prior to discontinuance of any water service for a violation of this policy, the District shall provide the following notice:

- A) **INSTALLATION OF ASSEMBLIES** - Upon determination by the District that a backflow prevention assembly is necessary the District will provide the user a written notice allowing forty-five (45) days from the date of the written notice to complete the installation. If the installation is not completed within the forty-five (45) day period the District will send the user a second notice. If the installation is not completed within fifteen (15) days of the date of the second notice, water service to the premises will be discontinued upon provision of a forty-eight (48) hour written notice.
- B) **REMOVAL OR BYPASSING AN ASSEMBLY** - If an assembly is removed or bypassed, the District will provide the user a written notice allowing seven (7) days to correct the violation. If the

violation is not corrected within the seven (7) day period water service to the premises will be discontinued upon provision of a forty-eight (48) hour written notice.

- C) ANNUAL TESTING OF ASSEMBLIES – The Water District will notify the customer approximately thirty (30) days in advance of the scheduled date that the annual testing is to be completed. If a completed test form is not received by the District within that thirty (30) day period, a past due notice will be sent. If a completed test form is not received by the District within fifteen (15) days of the date of the second notice, water service to the premises will be discontinued upon provision of a 48-hour written notice. The testing must be performed by a currently certified AWWA tester from the District's list of certified testers. If a customer does not comply with the annual testing requirements, the District reserves the right for the District or its agent to perform the test and/or repairs without further notice and invoice the customer for the costs.

3. DISCONTINUANCE WITHOUT NOTICE

The District shall discontinue, WITHOUT NOTICE water service to any user when the District discovers or determines that the user's water system is, or has imminent potential of, contaminating the public water supply.

CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES: INSTALLATION, TESTING, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR, PRESSURE RELIEF VALVE REQUIREMENT

It shall be the responsibility of each customer at his/her expense, to furnish, install, and keep in good working order and safe condition, any and all protective assemblies required by these Policies and Procedures. The District shall not be responsible for any loss or damage directly or indirectly resulting from or caused by the improper or negligent installation, operation, use, maintenance or repair of, or interference with, any backflow prevention assembly by any customer or any other person.

Backflow prevention assemblies shall be tested annually and immediately after installation, relocation, or repair. The District may require more frequent testing if successive inspections indicate repeated failures in the operation of the assembly.

Testing of backflow prevention assemblies shall be performed by a currently certified tester from the District's list of certified testers. Testing, and any necessary repairs shall be accomplished within the time frames specified in this document. The Cross-Connection Control Specialist shall have the duty of determining that the inspections required herein are performed correctly. Records of tests, repairs, and replacements shall be kept by the customer and the District Cross-Connection Control Department for 3 years.

As indicated in the uniform plumbing code, the presence of a backflow assembly in the domestic service line will prevent water, expanded in a water heater, from dissipating into the district system. Therefore, for the safety of those on the premises it is important to keep the pressure relief valve on each water heater in good working condition.

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVED TESTER LIST

In order for an independent tester to qualify for the District's certified tester list it will be necessary for the tester to provide the District with evidence of current AWWA tester certification, date of certification expiration, and proof of compliance with test kit calibration standards. If a company has several testers it shall be a requirement that each tester in the company submit proof of current certification in order to test within the distribution system of the District. Proof indicating that test kits have been checked for calibration, and recalibrated as needed to comply with standards found in the USC Manual of Cross Connection Control, will be required annually. A tester may be removed from the District's list of approved testers for any of the following reasons: failure to have current tester certification and test kit calibration documents on file with the District, incompetent testing or falsifying a test report, failure to test at least one backflow assembly within the District during a one year period. If successive inspections indicate repeated failures in the operation of any assembly, the District may require more frequent inspections.

DEFINITIONS

AIR GAP SEPARATION: The term "air gap separation" means a physical separation between the free flowing discharge end of a potable water supply pipeline and an open or non-pressure receiving vessel. An approved air gap separation shall be at least double the diameter of the supply pipe measured vertically above the overflow rim of the vessel- in no case less than 1" (2.54 cm.).

APPROVED: The term "approved" means acceptable to the District as suitable for intended use.

APPROVED WATER SUPPLY: The term "approved water supply" means a water supply whose potability is regulated by a state or local health agency.

AUXILIARY WATER SUPPLY: The term "auxiliary water supply" means any water supply other than that received from a public water system. This includes gray water and rain catchment (cisterns) that are interconnected with the potable water supply system.

BACKFLOW: The term “backflow” means the undesirable reversal of flow of water or mixtures of water and other liquid, gases, and other substances into the distribution pipes of the potable supply of water from any source or sources.

BACK PRESSURE: The term “back pressure” means any elevation of pressure in the downstream piping system (by pump, elevation of piping, or steam and/or air pressure) above the supply pressure at the point of service which would cause or tend to cause a reversal of the normal direction of flow through the water service connection.

BACK SIPHONAGE: The term “back siphonage” means a form of backflow due to reduction in system pressure which causes a negative or sub-atmospheric pressure to exist at a site in the water system.

CONTAMINATION: The term “contamination” means a degradation of the quality of the water which creates an actual hazard to the public health through the spread of disease by sewage, industrial fluids, or waste.

CROSS-CONNECTION: The term “cross-connection” means any unprotected actual or potential connection or structural arrangement between a public or a consumer's potable water system and any other source or system through which it is possible to introduce into any part of the potable system any used water, industrial fluid, gas or substance other than the intended potable water with which the system is supplied. By-pass arrangements, jumper connections, removable sections, swivel or change-over devices and other temporary or permanent devices through which or because of which "backflow" can or may occur are considered to be cross connections.

CUSTOMER / CONSUMER: The term “customer/consumer” means the owner or operator of a premise of facility obtaining water from the Soquel Creek Water District.

DISTRICT or WATER DISTRICT: The term “District” or “Water District” means the Soquel Creek Water District.

GRAYWATER: The term “Graywater” shall mean untreated wastewater which has not been contaminated by any toilet discharge, has not been affected by infectious, contaminated, or unhealthy bodily wastes, and which does not present a threat from contamination by unhealthful processing, manufacturing, or operating wastes. Graywater includes wastewater from bathtubs, showers, bathroom washbasins, clothes washing machines, and laundry tubs but does not include wastewater from kitchen sinks or dishwashers.

GRAYWATER SYSTEM: means a system and devices, attached to the plumbing system for the sanitary distribution or use of graywater.

HEALTH AGENCY: The term "health agency" means the California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, or the local health agency with respect to a small water system.

INDUSTRIAL FLUIDS: The term "Industrial fluids" means any fluid or solution which may be chemically, biologically or otherwise contaminated or polluted in a form or concentration such as would constitute a health, pollution, or plumbing hazard if introduced into an approved water supply. This may include, but not be limited to ; polluted or contaminated "used waters" originating from the public water system which may deteriorate in sanitary quality; chemicals in fluid form; placing acids and alkalies; circulated cooling waters connected to an open cooling tower and/or cooling waters that are chemically or biologically treated or stabilized with toxic substances; contaminated natural waters such as from wells, springs, streams, rivers, bays, harbors, seas, irrigation canals, or systems etc.; oils, gases, glycerin, parafines, caustic and acid solutions and other liquid and gaseous fluids, used industrial or other processes or for firefighting purposes.

POLLUTION: The term "pollution" means an impairment of the quality of the water to a degree which does not create a hazard to the public health but which does adversely and unreasonably affect the aesthetic qualities of such waters for domestic use.

PREMISES: The term "premises" means any and all areas on a water user's property which are served or have the potential to be served by the public water system which includes building facilities, or parcel of real property including improvements there on, which is determined by the Water District to be a single unit for purposes of receiving, using, and paying for water service.

POINT OF SERVICE: The term "point of service" means the terminal end of a service connection from the public water system, i.e. where the Water District loses jurisdiction and sanitary control over the water at it's point of delivery to the user's water system. If a meter is installed at the end of the service connection, then the point of service shall mean the downstream end of the meter.

POTABLE WATER: The term "potable water" means any water which is safe for human consumption pursuant to the standards set by the California Department of Health services.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY OR PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM OR PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: The terms "public water supply" or "public water supply system" or "public water system" mean the water system operated by the Water District to supply water for commercial and domestic purposes. This system will include all sources, facilities, and appurtenances between the source and the point of delivery, such as valves, pumps, pipes, conduits, tanks, receptacles, fixtures, equipment and appurtenances used to produce, convey, treat or store potable water for public consumption or use.

PURVEYOR: The term "water purveyor" means the public or private owner or operator of the potable water system supplying an approved water supply to the public.

RECLAIMED WATER: The term "reclaimed water" means a waste water which, as a result of treatment, is suitable for uses other than potable use.

USER: The term "user" means customer and consumer.