

# THE WATER LINE

August, 2006

Nob Hill Water Association

Edition 34

## KEEPING OUR WATER SAFE

What do you think the chances are that you have a connection to the Nob Hill Water distribution system that could threaten public safety? Although you most likely don't THINK your connection could be dangerous, it's possible that it is.

One of the many threats to our drinking water supply is known as a cross-connection (CC). A CC is the point at which a non-drinking water substance can possibly come in contact with drinking water. Connections as seemingly innocent as a sprinkler system, hot tub or ornamental pond can easily enable contaminants to enter potable (drinking) water lines via backflow. Customers install potential cross-connections like these and other water-using equipment every day, but, they are often unaware of the potential danger that lurks in the piping as a result. Backflow, is the unwanted reverse flow of non-potable water back into a water system. Backflow can allow bacteria, chemicals or physical contaminants to enter the water system if CCs are uncontrolled.

Nob Hill Water Association takes extreme precautions to prevent CC backflow from entering our distribution system. The Association's Cross-Connection Control (CCC) Program ensures that customers eliminate CCs whenever possible and control CCs that can't be eliminated by installing Department of Health (DOH) approved backflow preventing devices. To better protect public health, the Washington State DOH has revised the CCC regulations for public water systems. All systems are required to develop and implement CCC programs.

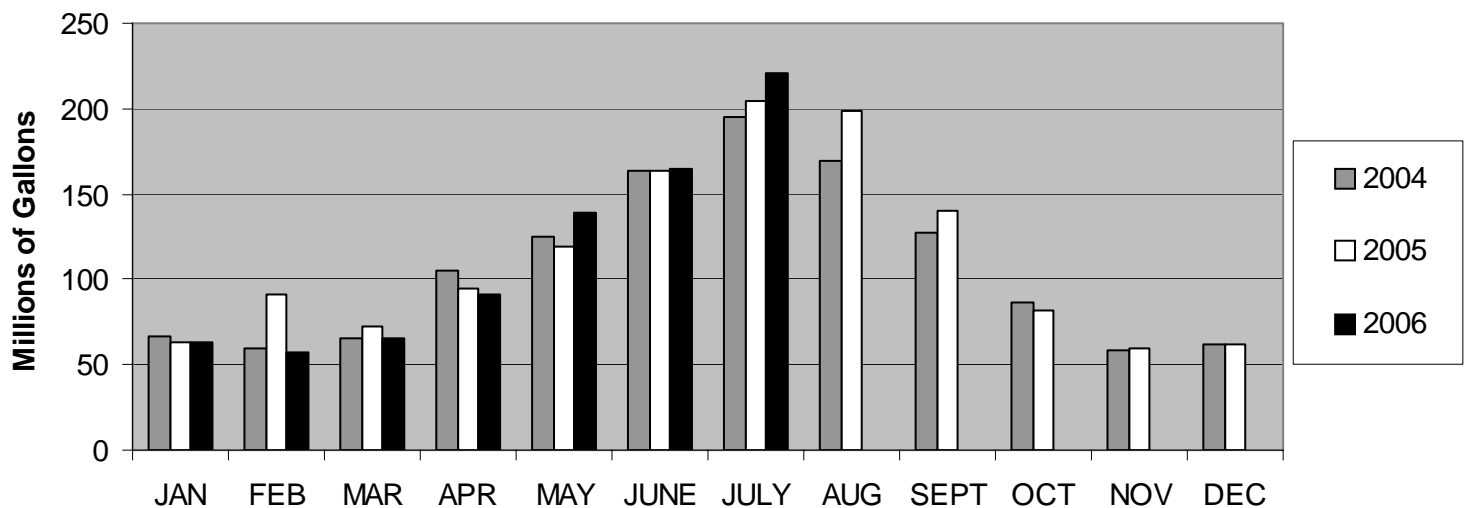
Terri Notestine, Washington State Department of Health Cross Connection Specialist said, "Cross-connection control programs are an integral part of effective water system operations and are based on sound public health principles. We are committed to protecting the health of the people in Washington State by ensuring safe and reliable drinking water. Cross-connection control programs are part of a multiple barrier system that helps protect the drinking water."

When a potential CC problem exists, Nob Hill Water Association's Chris Johnson conducts a hazard survey. Chris evaluates each premise for CC hazards and ensures that an appropriate DOH-approved backflow preventer is installed if needed. Some water-using equipment has built-in backflow protection. But, if CC hazards are present, customers may be required to install a backflow preventer to "control" the CC and protect the public water system.

If you have any concerns that your water connection might contain a CC, please call our office and schedule a CC survey. The survey is free and usually takes less than 30 minutes. It can be scheduled between 8 am and 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Remember, a cross-connection on your property poses the risk of possible contamination to you, your family and many of your neighbors.

Help us keep our drinking water safe. Be on the look-out for cross-connections!

## Water Usage History



## Let us make paying your bill nice and easy!!!!

Simplify your life with our Automatic Payment Plan! When you join, your payments will be deducted from your bank checking or savings account on the date specified, either the 5th or 20th of the month. For your records and convenience, you will continue to receive your bi-monthly water bill.

Automatic Payment is SAFE and SECURE. Electronic transactions are protected by federal regulation and are subject to stringent safeguards. Automatic Payment is also FLEXIBLE and can be cancelled at any time by sending reasonable advance notice to your bank and Nob Hill Water.

**To sign up for Automatic Payment fill out the form below and return to Nob Hill Water along with a voided check or savings deposit slip.** If you have multiple accounts with Nob Hill Water you will need to fill out one form per account.

### AUTOMATIC PAYMENT PLAN AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT

I (we) hereby authorize Nob Hill Water Association to automatically withdraw from my (our) bank account identified below the amount due on my (our) bi-monthly billing statement for the water account listed below. I (we) authorize the Financial Institution listed below to accept such withdrawals initiated by Nob Hill Water Association. The withdrawals shall be made from my (our) bank account on the date specified.

NOB HILL WATER ACCT. # \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

PAYMENT DATE: (CHOOSE ONE) \_\_\_\_\_ 5TH OF MONTH \_\_\_\_\_ 20TH OF MONTH

CUSTOMER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SERVICE ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CHOOSE ONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CHECKING ACCT. \_\_\_\_\_ SAVINGS ACCT.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

BRANCH: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TRANSIT/ABA #: \_\_\_\_\_ ACCOUNT #: \_\_\_\_\_

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until Nob Hill Water has received written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford them and the named financial institution a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE(S): \_\_\_\_\_