

PLUMBING AND MECHANICAL  
INTERPRETATION MANUAL



CODE: 2003 IRC

DATE:

CODE REF: P2902.1

11/5/2003

SUBJECT: Potable Water Filtration Equipment

**Question:** Is a backflow preventer required before all water filtration equipment?

**Answer:** The IRC States The Following:

**2902.1 General.** A potable water supply system shall be designed and installed in such a manner as to prevent contamination from nonpotable liquids, solids or gases L introduced into the potable water supply

There appears to be some district inspectors who have made an incorrect interpretation of the above highlighted section. This is not a reference to water filtration equipment installed but a general requirement prohibiting any cross connection to the potable water supply for single family and two family dwellings.

Unless the code specifically addresses or mentions a particular type of water treatment device or lists a backflow preventer, a backflow preventer should not be required for water filtration equipment. In the future, all interpretations, unless specifically mentioned by code, should be forwarded to this office for review prior to enforcement or implementation.

Cross-connections between an individual water supply and a potable public water supply shall be prohibit

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