WSSC’s CCP History continued

- Plans Review and Inspection Staff did an excellent job of ensuring proper protection at the time of new construction; but what about follow-up?
- Late 90’s, State recognizes importance by regulating that Cross Connection Technicians Certifications are a prerequisite to Journeyman and Master Plumber Licenses.
- In early 00’s, WSSC was forced to focus resources on Sanitary Sewer Overflows
- Frustrations boil over: "Why are they more concerned with Crisco in the sewer, than with Cyanide in the Water?"

Really? No Protection?

How Long Can You Avoid the Obvious?

Its Time to Take Another Stand

- This is about where we come into picture.
- WSSC is Under Sweeping Changes
- New Mid-level Management seems receptive to enhancing the CCP
- With mid-management in support, we set out to impress backflow fundamentals to our senior management and clarify the risks of non-action.
- We enhanced and presented the next four slides:

How do you contaminate the drinking water? Actually, it’s very easy:

Elementary Level Physics!!!
A cross-connection incident occurred in a Medical Center in Illinois.

Ethylene glycol, an anti-freeze added to air conditioning cooling tower water, entered the potable water supply system via a manually-operated valve that was intentionally left partially open.

No Backflow Prevention Assembly was present.

Two of six dialysis patients died as a direct or indirect result of the contamination.

What Also Got Their Attention:
- Federal and State Mandated
- Gross Negligence = Liability
- Benchmarking
- Self Funded, Phased-in Approach
- Our new GM lived through a significant backflow event in his former jurisdiction.

What? It has an AVB!