AG. WATER QUALITY ACT

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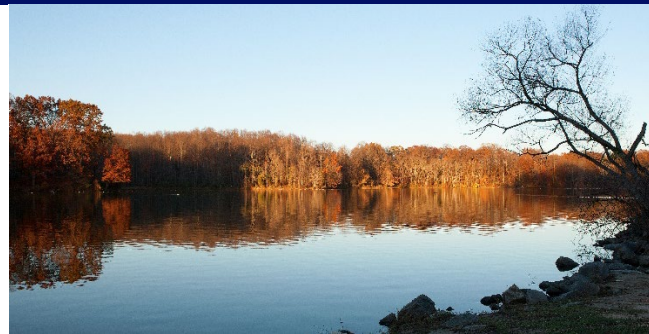

Photo courtesy of USDA ARS

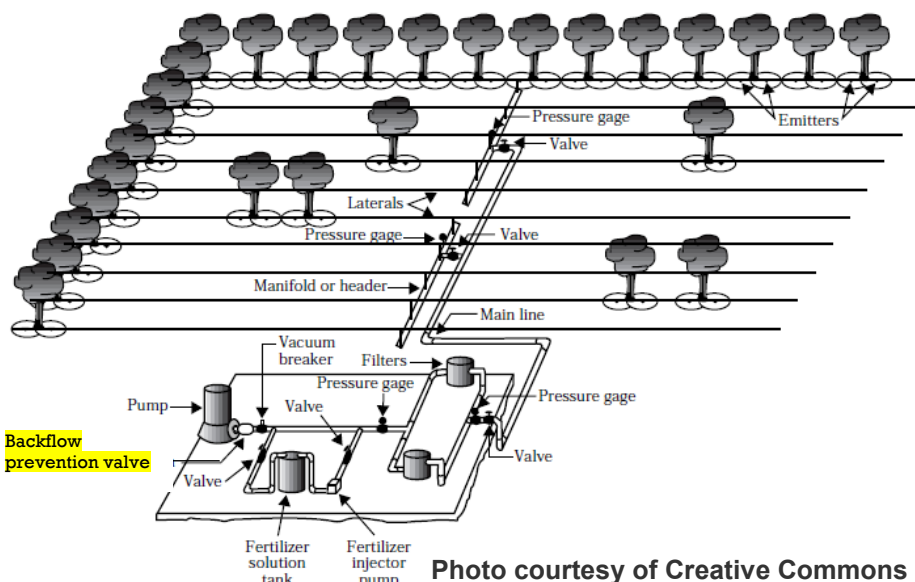| TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	FUNDING ASSISTANCE	IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

BACKFLOW PREVENTION

FARMSTEAD BMP #6

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Description:
Backflow prevention keeps water from both livestock and crop production facilities from entering drinking water lines.

AWQA Minimum Requirements:
Implementing backflow prevention practices reduces the risk of contaminated water entering drinking water lines and creating a health hazard.

- Use backflow prevention techniques for all pesticide related activities including measuring, mixing, and loading.
- Implement backflow prevention techniques at all livestock watering facilities.
- Install vacuum breakers and utilize air gaps with all spigots and hoses.
- Protect all plumbing fixtures from livestock to reduce the risk of livestock damage. Damaged fixtures may be more susceptible to backflow events.
- Install double check valves in the lines of all fertigation and irrigation equipment.

Recommendations:
Contact a licensed plumber to evaluate water infrastructure. If possible, use a nurse tank as the water source when filling application equipment for pesticide dilution and application. Install an Anti-Backflow device such as those listed below:

- Air Gap
- Reduced Pressure Principle Back Pressure Backflow Preventer
- Double Check Valve Assembly
- Pressure Type Vacuum Breaker
- Atmospheric Type Vacuum Breaker
- Barometric Loop

Technical References

University Publications
- IP-41 Agricultural Storage and Handling

USDA/NRCS Publications
- Practice Code 614 Watering Facility
- Practice Code 533 Pumping Plant

Funding Assistance Options

State Cost Share
- No state cost share is currently available for this practice.

Kentucky Ag. Development Fund (KADB/KAFC)
- Select from available program options here.

NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Select from available program options here.

Important Considerations

Water Quality Benefit (💧-💧💧💧💧):💧
(KEY: 💧=good, 💧💧💧💧=best: see STEPL Model)