**AG. WATER QUALITY ACT**

**BACKFLOW PREVENTION**

**FARMSTEAD BMP #6**

**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.

**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/KAPC)
  - 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)