

## WATERING PETS WITH AN AIR-GAP

Ironically, the ordinary garden hose is the most common form of a cross-connection as it can be easily connected to the potable water supply and used for a variety of potentially dangerous applications. The concern that exist with watering troughs are they may contain fecal coli form or e. coli that are components of humans and warm blooded animals; which could be siphoned back into the drinking water by means of a garden hose submerged in a watering trough. The District’s Cross-connection control Ordinance No. 1991-2 requires a backflow device to be installed on a customer’s service line if public water is used to fill watering troughs with a garden hose. If approval from the “District” is granted and the following air-gaps are constructed, water provided by the “District” could be used to fill watering troughs for a few pets. The only allowable air-gap is a yard hydrant without any pipe threads (soldered or filed off) or other attachments to the discharge end of the hydrant, or using a designated hydrant without any pipe threads to fill a bucket for transporting water to the pets watering trough; **THE USE OF A HOSE IS UNACCEPTABLE**, If these methods and or types of air-gaps cannot be constructed and maintained the only other alternative is to install a backflow device. These air-gaps must be inspected annually by the “District”.

