



MURDOCK CAST IRON HYDRANTS AND STREET WASHER OPERATION & TROUBLESHOOTING

- 1) Fixture must be operated full “on”, or by-pass in valve stem will not be closed off by cup and ring washers. If it is not full “on”, this will allow water to drain through the weep holes in bottom connection while hydrant is in operation.
- 2) If hose is used, water must be turned off at hydrant, not at nozzle on hose or washers will be worn out quickly due to back pressure and will not seal by-pass in valve stem properly.
- 3) If hydrant is not draining properly, was adequate bed of broken rock provided for water to drain into after each operation of fixture? Supply line water drains into ground through weep holes in bottom of fixture after each operation. Continuous operation of the fixture at frequent intervals could cause drainage bed to become saturated and water not being absorbed into drainage bed.
- 4) Was supply line flushed before fixtures were hooked up to it? Dirt or small debris could cause seat washer not to seat properly on valve stem if lines are not flushed until after fixtures are installed. Remove inner works, and check valve body for dirt.
- 5) Was bottom connection turned to facilitate hook up of fixture with hydrant in the closed position? If so, lift of nozzle governed by movement of inner works when hydrant is turned on could be off. Lift should be 3/8” to 1/2” maximum. You may try to correct by pulling inner works and turning valve body up on the supply pipe. If this does not work, try turning it down a little. Also check washers for damage.
- 6) How long has it been since washers have been changed in valve body? This should be done at least once a year in heavy usage areas.
- 7) If water pressure exceeds 85#, a pressure reducing valve should be placed in the supply line going to the hydrant.

Important: If vacuum breaker is used on outlet and hose connection is reduced, back pressure from the hose used on the fixture will cause water to squirt from vacuum breaker during operation. The purpose of the vacuum breaker is to prevent water from hose from going back into fixture.