

About Water Systems Council

Founded in 1932, the Water Systems Council (WSC) is the only national nonprofit organization with programs solely focused on the private water wells and small, shared wells serving more than 13 million households nationwide.

WSC is committed to ensuring that Americans who depend on wells have safe, reliable drinking water and works to educate well owners, consumers, and policymakers at the local, state and federal levels about water wells and the importance of protecting America's groundwater resources.

WSC offers a wide variety of programs and services including public education, training and technical assistance, policy research, Children's Water Festivals, the wellcare® Hotline, the wellcare® Well Owners Network, publications and technical manuals.

WSC maintains voluntary industry standards to promote excellence in the manufacturing of components for water well systems. WSC also provides its manufacturer and distributor members with statistical reports of interest to the water well industry.

For more information on WSC, our programs and publications, visit <u>www.watersystemscouncil.org.</u>



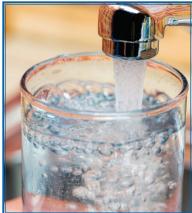
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Introduction

Groundwater, which accounts for 30 percent of the world's fresh water, occurs below ground where it is filtered and purified naturally as it passes through layers of the earth. Groundwater is stored in aquifers – layers of soil, sand and rocks, but can come to the surface naturally through a spring or brought to the surface through a well.

Modern wells allow us to access groundwater which provides a clean and efficient water supply to more than 43 million people nationwide. A professionally installed well is easy to maintain and can provide safe, affordable water for many years.

While the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates public water systems, the responsibility for ensuring the safety of water from private wells belongs to the well owner. These responsibilities should include knowing the well's history, testing the water quality annually or more often if necessary, and having the well system and its components inspected regularly by a licensed well contractor.

Installation of private wells is regulated by the state or local oversight agencies. Research state and local water well regulations before beginning an inspection. WSC maintains a list of state well codes and the agencies that oversee and/or regulate private wells on our website at https://www.watersystemscouncil.org/state-well-codes/.

State and Local Oversight Agency Responsibilities

State and local agencies that oversee private wells are usually responsible for:

- Issuing permits approving the location of a new well.
- Inspecting the well after construction to verify proper grouting and sufficient water supply.
- Maintaining records of well logs provided by well contractors.
- Taking or verifying drinking water test results and/or issuing certificates attesting to water quality.
- Providing annual water testing and well maintenance recommendations to local residents.

Home Inspector Responsibilities

When purchasing a new home, families want to be assured that their water supply is safe. When you include a water well evaluation in your inspection report this will improve the value of your services and put your client's mind at ease. Water well inspections are not typically included as part of a regular home inspection. However, home inspectors may be asked to perform a well inspection and water testing. The state where the well is located may have rules regarding who can inspect and/or perform water testing on private wells.





The Inspection

A well inspection should ensure that the well and its components are in good working order at the time of inspection. WSC recommends a well inspection as part of any real estate transaction. Most real estate transactions require a minimum of water testing and testing the flow/yield of the well.

The well inspection may include:

- Reviewing the Well's History
- Examining the Well's Location
- Inspecting Well Components
- Testing the Water Quality and
- Determining the Well Yield/Flow

This section discusses ideal water well conditions. Existing state or local regulations must be followed if they differ from the guidelines in this booklet.

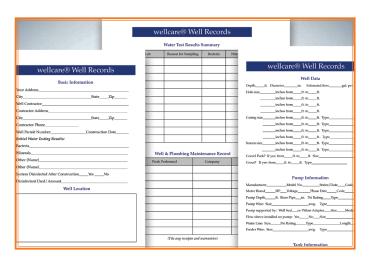
Reviewing the Well's History

Try to get as much information as possible on the construction, maintenance and condition of the well to pass along to the buyers. Ask the seller or contact the company that drilled the well for the well log or well history (also known as a well record or drilling report). If the well owner (seller) or company that drilled the well does not have a copy of the well log, some states can provide copies of well logs upon request. Several states also offer this information online. Contact the state or local oversight agency for further assistance.

The well log will usually include a reference number for the well, the well owner at the time of construction, location of the well, and various construction details. These may include the drilling method used, the depth of the well, the strata penetrated, the depth at which water was found, and the static water level at the time

off completion. The well log may also include information on well components, such as the amount and type of casing, the size and type of screen, and the size and setting of the well pump.

In addition to the well log, well owners should keep track of any maintenance on the well and annual water test results. Keeping good, accurate records is essential to ensure good water quality and top performance of the well system. Ask the well owner (or seller) for a copy of well maintenance records and water test results, if available.

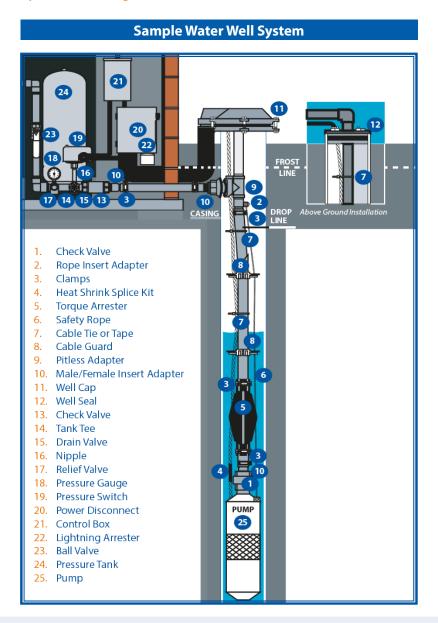


Find out if there are any abandoned or out-of-service wells on the property. Abandoned wells must be properly closed and sealed so that they do not pose a threat to groundwater quality and a potential safety hazard. For more information on abandoned wells visit our website for the wellcare® information sheet on Closing an Abandoned Well.



Sample Water Well System Schematic

A modern water well system includes parts specifically manufactured to make sure the well operates properly and provides many years of service. Most well components must meet strict manufacturing standards, such as the American National Standards Institute/Water Systems Council Standard for Pressurized Water Storage Tanks - ANSI/WSC PST 2000/2016 and Water Systems Council Performance Standards And Recommended Installation Procedures for Sanitary Water Well Pitless Adapters, Pitless Units, and Well Caps - PAS-97 (2017). For more information on these standards, visit our website at https://www.watersystemscouncil.org/resources/well-standards/.



This illustration is intended to represent some of the components that can be included in a water well system and is not intended as an installation guide.

Check local codes for actual requirements and restrictions.



Examining the Well's Location

When inspecting a well, the inspector should evaluate the well's location. The well should be uphill from possible contamination sources (e.g. septic systems, farms) to ensure that surface water does not reach the wellhead.

Check state and local regulations for well separation distances and any other water well codes. Although separation distances vary with the hydrogeology of the site, the WSC and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) experts suggest 50 feet or more for septic tanks, livestock yards, and septic leach fields; 100 feet or more for petroleum tanks, pesticide and fertilizer storage; and 250 feet or more for manure stacks. In addition, the well should be at least 10 feet from any property line.

The soil around the well should be burmed as to prevent puddling around the wellhead and to divert any runoff water from going to the wellhead. There should be no voids in the soil around the top of the wellhead which could allow water to travel down the borehole to the aguifer.

Private wells should be located on the subject property site. See the box on this page for special information pertaining to shared wells.

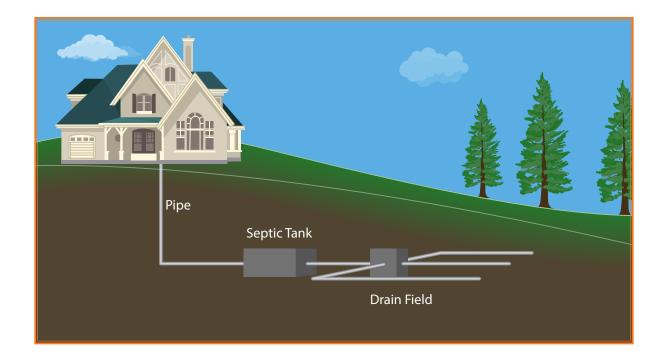
A Note about Shared Wells:

Shared wells must serve connecting or adjacent properties. Properties sharing a private well should not be across the street or multiple lots away from the well location. For FHA or VA insured properties, evidence of water rights and a recorded shared well agreement (generally filed with the deed) must be provided for acceptance of the well as the primary source of water. In addition, it is important to get a written list of all other requirements from the Underwriter as FHA and VA have very specific inspection requirements for shared wells. For more information on shared wells visit our website for wellcare® information sheets on this topic.



Septic Systems

Many times when a home is served by a well it is likely it will also have its own wastewater treatment system called a septic system. Determine if the property has a septic system and if the seller has any maintenance records including the last time it was pumped out. A poorly maintained septic system can pose a serious threat to the quality of well water and can require expensive repairs. The septic system should be inspected by the local health department or septic service company for capacity and leaks.



This image is intended to represent some of the components that can be included in a septic system and is not intended as an installation guide.

Check local codes for actual requirements and restrictions.



Inspecting Well Components

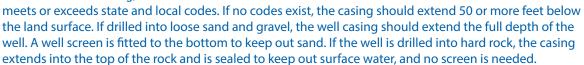
The well log should provide information about the age of the well, the drilling method used, the depth of the well, and information on well components. Most private wells are drilled by one of two methods: cabletool or percussion method and rotary well drilling. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that new wells be drilled, no less than 20 feet deep and cased. Casing should be steel or other durable material that is leak-proof and acceptable to the local health authority and/or the trade profession licensed to drill and repair wells in the local jurisdiction. Additionally, piping must be lead free.

Detailed inspection of well components should only be performed by a licensed well contractor.

An inspection of well components should include the following:

Well Casing

- Common materials used are carbon steel, galvanized steel, stainless steel and plastic, usually PVC. The type of casing is dictated by the site's geology and local/state codes.
- Extends 12 or more inches above the land surface. In flood prone areas, the casing is one to two feet above the highest recorded flood level. This helps to prevent substances from washing into the well.
- No holes or cracks are visible in the well casing.
- The casing depth, as recorded in the well log,





- The top of the casing is properly covered with a well cap or well seal. See diagram on page 6 for both types of coverings.
- The well cap is vermin-proof, watertight, and securely attached to the well casing. Meets or exceeds state and local codes.
- The well seal is sanitary, watertight, and securely attached to the well casing. Meets or exceeds state and local codes.





Well Pump

- Pumps vary in sizes and types. Jet pumps and submersible pumps are the most common types.
 Determine the type of pump being used for the well by referring to the well log or through visual inspection. Note: Shallow well jet pumps are above ground pumps that can be found at the wellhead or near the pressure tank. Submersible pumps are installed inside the well and are not visible.
- The size of the well pump is based on the static water level, well yield, working pressure, and needs of the household. The pump should meet normal peak demand for the household rather than average use.

Pressure Tank

- There are three general types of water tanks: diaphragm bladder tanks with permanent separation between the air and water, tanks with a float or wafer separating the air from the water, and plain steel tanks. Determine the type and size of tank that is being used by referring to the well log or contacting the manufacturer. Confirm the tank size is adequate for the household/family it will be serving.
- Check for corrosion and leaks at the plumbing fittings and the pressure tank.
- Check the pressure gauge and the pressure control switch. Pressure control switches operate the pump within a "cut-in" and a "cut-out" pressure. The low number is the cut-in pressure and the high number is the cut-out pressure. Turn the water on at a laundry tub or sink and note the pressure when the pump comes on and when it goes off. These pressures will be the low and high limits, respectively. The difference between the cut-in and cut-out pressure is called the "differential." The differential is the operating pressure range of your system.
- Measure the time it takes for the pump to go from the cut-in to the cut-out pressure with no water running in the house. Depending on the size of the pressure/storage tank, the precharge pressure of the tank, and the pump, it should take 1 to 2 minutes. If it is less than 45 seconds or greater than 2 minutes 15 seconds, further investigation by a licensed well contractor should be done to diagnose the cause. Note: Special circumstances apply if the well has a constant pressure system. If you think this may be the case, consult a well professional or check with the manufacturer.
- Note: A low-yielding well serving a high-demand household or multiple households, may require
 a storage system with a large storage tank and secondary pump that can deliver water at an
 adequate flow to the house. Yield testing will help determine if the well is adequate for the household.
 See page 13 for information on yield testing.

Water Treatment

• If the home has any water treatment devices, these should be appropriate and regularly maintained. Water treatment devices include point-of-entry equipment, which treats the water as it enters the house, or point-of-use equipment, which treats the water at an individual tap, such as the kitchen sink.



Testing the Water Quality

First, determine which types of water tests are needed. These typically include tests for bacteria, lead and nitrate/nitrites, as well as contaminants of local concern, such as arsenic or radon.

Contact the wellcare® Hotline or the local/state oversight agency for a list of required tests and contaminants of local concern. Also consider the following conditions and water tests:

| Conditions or Nearby Activities | Recommended Test |
|--|---|
| Well downstream from any septic system | Coliform bacteria, nitrate/nitrite |
| Household plumbing contains lead | Copper, hardness, lead, pH, salts, zinc |
| Radon present in indoor air or region | Radon |
| Water softener installed | Chloride, hardness, iron, manganese, sodium |
| Stained plumbing fixtures | Iron, manganese, sulfate, tannins |
| Objectionable smell | Hydrogen sulfide, pH, hardness, metals |
| Water is cloudy, frothy or colored | Hardness, pH, salts, tannins, turbidity |
| Corrosion of pipes, plumbing | Copper, lead, pH, salts |
| Nearby areas of intensive agriculture | Coliform bacteria, nitrate, pesticides |
| Nearby coal, other mining operation | Metals, pH, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) |
| Gas drilling operation nearby | Barium, chloride, sodium, strontium |
| Used motor oil disposed of on property, old oil tanks in ground, or gasoline station within a mile of the property | Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) |
| Dump, landfill, factory or dry-cleaning operation nearby | Metals, pH, salts, VOCs |
| Salty taste and seawater, or a heavily salted roadway nearby | Boron, chloride, sodium, TDS |

Water testing should be performed by a certified laboratory, county extension office, or local health department to ensure the test results are reliable. Water Systems Council maintains a list of certified laboratories in each state or province. Visit our website for more information:

https://www.watersystemscouncil.org/water-well-help/water-testing-by-state/. If you need help determining what to test for or where to test, contact the wellcare® Hotline at 1-888-395-1033.

What tests are required in order to sell a home with a well?

The requirements vary by state. Contact your local/state oversight agency for current requirements in your state. A list of state oversight agencies can be found on the WSC website at https://www.watersystemscouncil.org/state-well-codes/.

Most real estate contracts require well testing. You may also refer to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) testing requirements, which are the minimum standards acceptable for Federal Housing Administration (FHA) insured loans. See the wellcare® information sheet "Real Estate Professionals: Buying or Selling a Home with a Well" available on the WSC website at https://www.watersystemscouncil.org/water-well-help/wellcare-info-sheets/



Taking a Water Sample

The laboratory will provide specific sampling instructions and clean bottles in which to collect the water sample. These instructions should be followed carefully to avoid inaccurate results.



For example, water samples may require refrigeration or need to get to the laboratory within a certain period of time.

In addition to any instructions provided by the laboratory, follow these steps to collect the water sample:

- 1. Identify the collection point (for example, the kitchen sink).
- 2. Remove the washer and aeration device from the faucet. This is usually required, depending on the type of water test(s) you're performing.
- 3. Disinfect the faucet with either isopropyl alcohol or bleach, and let it stand for 4-5 minutes. Some states require that you use a flame to superheat the metal to disinfect it.
- 4. Turn the water on and allow it to run until there is a noticeable change in temperature or until you've ensured the well pump has come on and started to fill the tank.
- 5. Fill your container according to the laboratory's instructions being careful not to touch the inside of the bottle or cap.

Water Test Results

Compare test results with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maximum contaminant levels for the contaminant, which are required for public water supplies. EPA does not regulate private wells. However, well owners are urged to use these levels as guidelines. For a list of these standards, go to

https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/national-primary-drinking-water-regulations. You should also check with the local or state oversight agency as they may have stricter standards or standards for contaminants that EPA does not regulate. For more information on water testing and test results, see the wellcare® information sheets on "Well Water Testing" and "Understanding Your Well Water Test Results" which can be found on our website at:

https://www.watersystemscouncil.org/water-well-help/wellcare-info-sheets/.

If the water tests warrant treatment, you should recommend consulting with a certified water treatment professional and/or a licensed well contractor.



Flow & Yield Testing

Conducting a Flow Test

A flow test involves pumping water from an outside hose bib (preferably on the house to get the best assessment of what is available inside the house) for 30 minutes to determine if the well can sustain an adequate flow for normal peak demand. The flow is noted every 10 minutes. Many local and state oversight agencies and mortgage lenders have minimum requirements. For instance, HUD requires an existing well to deliver water flow of at least 3 to 5 gallons per minute (GPM). If a low flow rate is noted, this can be due to pump sizing, backflow prevention on the fixture and possibly small plumbing lines. In these cases, a licensed well contractor can investigate further to determine if anything can be done to improve the flow. The flow test does not represent actual recovery in the well and may only reflect adequate storage in the well at the time of testing. This test represents conditions and data collected on the day of testing. If more extensive testing is needed, such as a true yield test where static, drawdown and recovery rates are determined, you should contact a licensed well contractor.

Note:

A yield test or flow test is not necessarily indicative of how the well will perform; it is only to be used as a guide as to how much water the well may yield. This is because it is a snapshot of the well, not a long-range test. There are many variables, such as the amount of rainfall the area has recently received, the level of the water table at that time, the type of aquifer, and the specific usage or demands on the well.

Determining the Yield of a Well

The minimum safe yield of a well represents its dependable and continuous output during a long drought. The well yield at the time the well was drilled may be found in the well log.

Determining the yield of a well involves a complex test to see the balance between the maximum amount of water that can be pumped out of the well and the amount of water that recharges back into the well from the surrounding groundwater source. These tests should be performed by a licensed well contractor.

A Few Notes about Well Capacity and Yield:

- The well log or drilling report contains information on the well's estimated capacity and yield in gallons per minute at the time the well was drilled.
- There is a minimum well yield of one gallon per minute, which amounts to 1,440 gallons of water per day. The average family of four uses approximately 400 gallons per day.
- The minimum yield is five gallons or more per minute to accommodate all water uses typical of a suburban or rural family home.
- Planned use should also be taken into consideration. For example, the well yield may not be adequate for a large family, but may be sufficient for an elderly person living alone.
- With proper storage equipment, low producing wells can be a reliable water source.
- The yield test will generate lots of water that must be discharged to an appropriate location. Take care not to let the water flow towards or back into the well being pumped. Try to direct the water to a stream, pond or wetlands.



Well Inspection Checklist

Part 1: Well Location and Condition

| Acc | ording to the well log, is the well a drilled well? |
|-------|---|
| | Yes No; if no, how was the well constructed? |
| | |
| | ne well is NOT a drilled well, has it been brought up to current standard or code, according to well ords? |
| | Yes No |
| Hov | v old is the well, according to the well log? |
| Hov | w deep is the well, according to the well log?feet |
| Are | well records available? Check all that are available and attach a copy with the report. Well Log |
| Acc | ording to well maintenance records, how often has the well been inspected? |
| Acc | ording to well maintenance records, how often were water tests performed on the well? |
| Who | ere is the well located on the property? |
| | ne soil around the well burmed to prevent puddling around the wellhead and to divert any runoff ter from going to the wellhead? |
| | Yes No |
| | there any voids in the soil around the top of the wellhead which could allow runoff to travel down borehole to the aquifer? |
| | Yes No |
| ls th | ne wellhead visible and above ground? |
| | Yes No |
| Are | any permanent structures located within 10 feet of the wellhead? |
| | Yes; if yes, is the well still accessible for future repairs and service? |



| | wellcare® Information for Home Inspectors: Guide to Evaluating Water Wells ——————————————————————————————————— |
|-----|---|
| | wellcare information for nome inspectors, dutic to Evaluating water wells |
| 13. | Is it apparent from a site inspection that the well location meets the minimum distance from contamination sources as outlined by state or local regulation? Yes |
| | □ No; if no, please explain: |
| | - No, ii no, picase explain. |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| 14. | According to well records, are there any abandoned wells on the property? |
| | ☐ Yes; if yes, are there records showing that these have these been properly closed? |
| | |
| | L NO |
| Day | t 2: Well Components |
| | t 2: Well Components |
| 15. | Is the lining of the well (the casing) 12 or more inches above the land surface? Note: In flood prone areas, the casing should be one to two feet above the highest recorded flood level. |
| | □ Yes |
| | □ No; if no, indicate height of casing: |
| 16. | Are there any visible holes or cracks in the well casing? |
| | ☐ Yes; if yes, please describe: |
| | |
| | □ No |
| 17. | According to the well log, does the casing depth meet state and local codes? |
| | □ Yes |
| | □ No; if no, please describe: |
| | |
| | |
| 18. | Is the well cap vermin-proof, watertight and securely attached to the well casing? |
| | □ Yes |
| | No; if no, please describe: |
| | |
| 19. | Is there any corrosion visible at the plumbing fittings and/or the pressure/storage tank? |
| | Yes; if yes, describe |
| | □ No |



| | wellcare® Information for Home Inspectors: Guide to Evaluating Water Wells | | | | |
|------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 20. | O. According to the well log, is pitless equipment used? | | | | |
| | Yes; if yes, what type?; is this listed as approved under industry standard PAS-97(2017)? (The most current standard and product list is available at https://www.watersystemscouncil.org/resources/well-standards/ .) | | | | |
| | □ No | | | | |
| 21. | Pressure Tank | | | | |
| | ☐ What is the pump cut-in pressure? | | | | |
| | ☐ What is the pump cut-out pressure? | | | | |
| | ☐ What is the pressure differential? | | | | |
| 22. | How long does it take for the pump to go from the cut-in to the cut-out with no water running in the house? | | | | |
| 23. | 3. Does the home have any water treatment devices? | | | | |
| | ☐ Yes; if yes, list: | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | □ No | | | | |
| 24. | Have water treatment systems been regularly maintained, according to well maintenance records? | | | | |
| | □ Yes | | | | |
| | No; if no, please explain: | | | | |
| Daw | et 2. Water Testing | | | | |
| <u>Par</u> | rt 3: Water Testing | | | | |
| | Is a water sample needed? | | | | |
| | Yes; if yes, what types? o Bacteria o Arsenic | | | | |
| | o Nitrate/Nitrite o Radon | | | | |
| | o Lead o Other (Please list): | | | | |
| | □ No | | | | |
| <u>Par</u> | rt 4: Well Yield/Flow | | | | |
| 26. | Well Flow Test Results: gallons per minute (GPM) | | | | |
| 27. | Is a more extensive test needed to evaluate well yield? | | | | |
| | □ Yes | | | | |
| | □ No | | | | |
| | | | | | |

If the well falls short of ideal conditions, the home inspector should recommend that the homeowner contact a licensed well contractor about further well inspection, water testing and/or the need for well repair or replacement.



Tips for Your Clients

Properly constructed private water wells require little routine maintenance. These simple steps will help protect your investment and ensure good water quality:

- ✓ Always use a licensed well contractor when a well is constructed or serviced.
- An annual well maintenance check, including a water test for a minimum of bacteria, is recommended. Any source of drinking water should be checked any time there is a change in taste, odor or appearance, anytime a water supply system is serviced, or if someone in the home is pregnant/nursing or is ill.
- Keep hazardous chemicals, such as paint, fertilizer, pesticides, and motor oil far away from your well and dispose of them properly.
- Periodically check the wellhead and cap to ensure it is in good condition and no cracks/holes are present.
- Always maintain proper separation between your well and buildings, waste systems or chemical storage facilities.
- Take care when mowing or shoveling snow from around your well. A damaged casing could jeopardize the sanitary protection of your well. Do not pile snow, leaves, or other materials around your well.
- Keep your well records in a safe place. These include the well log completed at the time of construction, as well as any system maintenance and annual water test results.
- When your well has come to the end of its serviceable life (usually more than 30 years), have your licensed water well contractor properly close your well after constructing your new well system.



888-395-1033

Answering Your Questions about Wells

- Well care and maintenance
- Water testing
- Water quality
- Identifying potential contaminants
- Avoiding seasonal threats
- Understanding well mechanics
- Learning well basics
- Well components
- Water conservation
- Finding a licensed well contractor
- Well construction codes/regulations
- And much more!

If you have a question about wells or well water, contact the wellcare® Hotline Monday through Friday at 888-395-1033, or visit our website at www.wellcarehotline.org to fill out a form online or chat with us!



Appendix: Glossary of Terms

Cable-tool method (also called percussion method): A drilling method that involves raising and dropping a heavy chisel-shaped bit to break up the soil in a borehole.

Groundwater: Water stored underground in rock and unconsolidated materials.

Hydrogeology: The part of hydrology that deals with the occurrence, movement, and quality of water beneath the Earth's surface.

Jet pump: A device that is powered by an electric motor that drives an impeller or centrifugal pump. The impeller moves water through a narrow orifice mounted in the housing in front of the impeller.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): Standards that are set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for drinking water quality in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations. A Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) is the legal threshold limit on the amount of a hazardous substance that is allowed in drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Pressure tank: Vessel used to provide cycle control of the pump and store a volume of useable water.

Rotary well drilling: Method in which a rotating bit fixed to the lower end of a steel pipe chews into the rock or other earth materials.

Safe Drinking Water Act: Federal law established to protect the quality of drinking water in the U.S. This law focuses on all waters actually or potentially designed for drinking water use, whether from above-ground or underground sources.

Septic leach field (or drain field): Is the area where pre-treated effluent is pumped to be further treated and disposed.

Septic system: Self-contained, underground household wastewater treatment system.

Septic tank: A tank used to detain domestic wastes to allow the settling of solids prior to distribution to a leach field for soil absorption.

Shared well: Wells drilled to serve two or more nearby homes, sometimes referred to as cluster wells.

Submersible pump: A device which has a hermetically sealed motor close-coupled to the pump body. The whole assembly is submerged in the fluid to be pumped.

Surface water: Water that is on the Earth's surface.

Storage tank: A container that stores water.

Water quality: A term used to describe the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of water.

Water table: The top of the water surface in the saturated part of an aquifer.

Water testing: Process of collecting a water sample from a clean faucet for laboratory analysis to determine whether it is safe to drink.

Water well: An excavation or structure created in the ground by digging, driving, boring, or drilling to access ground water in underground aquifers.

Water well code: State law that regulates the construction standards of private drinking water wells.

Well cap: A watertight cap that covers and encloses the top of your well casing.

Well casing: Steel or plastic lining permanently installed in drilled wells to prevent cave-ins or contamination by surface water.

Well log: A written form on which the driller lists well characteristics; required in many states.

Well screen: Installed at bottom of a well casing to prevent sand and sediment from contaminating the well.

Well seal: Sometimes referred to as a "sanitary" well cap, attaches to the top of the well casing much like a standard well cap, to provide an airtight rubber gasket seal.

Well yield: The volume of water that can be pumped during a specific period of time, usually expressed in gallons per minute.



Local Resources

| Your Home Inspector is |
|------------------------------|
| |
| Well Contractor |
| Well Confidetor |
| Water Testing Laboratory |
| Water resting Laboratory |
| Water Treatment Professional |
| water freatment Professional |
| Septic Service |
| Septic Service |



Join the

wellcare® Well Owners Network Members enjoy...

- Access to information and tools to help you better understand your drinking water source
- Annual reminders to test your well water
- A quarterly e-newsletter with information on wells, well water and practical tips for protecting the nation's groundwater resources
- Opportunities for discount well water test kits

Learn more about private wells and how to ensure it will provide safe drinking water for years to come by joining the wellcare® Well Owners Network.

Call 888-395-1033 or sign up online

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