

HOMEOWNER'S WATER WELL CHECKLIST

Properly constructed private water supply systems require little routine maintenance. These simple steps should help protect your water system and investment.

- Always use licensed or certified water well drillers and pump installers when a well is drilled and constructed, a pump is installed, or the system is serviced.
- An annual well maintenance inspection, including a coliform bacteria test, is recommended. Any source of drinking water should be checked whenever there is a change in taste, odor, or appearance or anytime a water supply system is serviced.
- Keep hazardous chemicals, such as paint, fertilizer, pesticides, or petroleum products far away from your well. Always maintain proper separation between your well and your waste disposal (septic) system or any chemical storage facilities.
- Do not allow water to back siphon or flow back down your well when mixing pesticides, fertilizers or other chemicals. The easiest way to avoid this problem is to refrain from placing a water hose inside a tank or container while mixing chemicals.
- Keep the top of your well casing at least one foot above the ground. To ensure proper drainage, the ground should slope away from your well and the surrounding area should be free of foreign debris such as leaves and snow.
- Care should be taken when working or mowing around your well. Periodically check the well cap on top of the casing to ensure that it is in good repair. A damaged cap could jeopardize the sanitary protection of your well.
- Keep your well records in a safe, yet accessible place. These records should include the construction report completed by the driller, as well as the annual water well maintenance and water testing results.

- When your old well has come to the end of its serviceable life (usually an average of 30 years or so), have a qualified water well contractor (driller) properly decommission or plug it.