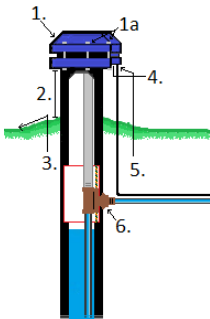


# Private Well Water Systems in Connecticut: Best Management Practice Checklist

In Connecticut, there are currently no maintenance requirements for private well water systems. Private well owners are responsible for the quality of their private well water and maintenance of their well water systems. Poorly maintained well water systems can act as a conduit for pollutants to enter your home drinking water.

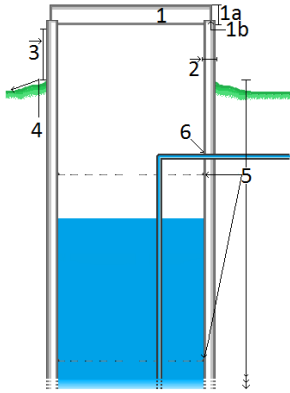
Proper maintenance and operation of your well water system is an essential component to protecting the water quality supplied by your well. Even with proper maintenance, well water system equipment will eventually need repair or replacement. Consider performing the following items to be proactive in promoting the health and longevity of your well water supply and system:

- Test the quality of your well water; refer to [Publication #24: Private Well Testing](#)
- Keep the area around your well accessible
- Limit activities around your well that may contaminate your water supply, such as over applying fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides and store these products in watertight containers or in secondary containment
- Keep hazardous chemicals, such as paint, lawn chemicals, or other chemicals away from your well and store these products in watertight containers or in secondary containment
- Be aware of local land use activities that may affect your well water quality
- At least annually, inspect the exposed well casing and the area around it:
  - ✓ Is the exposed well steel casing in good shape?
    - Look for cracks, holes or signs of corrosion
  - ✓ Is the well cap watertight?
    - Check Bolts, rubber gasket, seals
  - ✓ If there is an electrical conduit at the well cap, is it watertight?
  - ✓ Is the top of your well casing at least six inches above the ground?
  - ✓ Does the ground around the well casing slope away from the casing?



## **DRILLED WELLS:**

1. Well cap condition and watertight seal to the well casing;  
1a. check bolts and rubber gasket
2. Top of the well casing is at least 6" above ground
3. Ground is sloping away from the well casing
4. Well cap air vent is accessible and screened
5. Watertight connection from the cap to the electrical conduit
6. Pitless adaptors provide an underground connection below the frost line to bring water pumped from the well into your home



### **DUG WELLS:**

1. Well cap is in good condition and watertight to the well casing;  
1a. 4-inches thick, 1b. 2-inch overlap
2. Dug well casing or side wells, made of 4-inch thick watertight concrete, or other CT DPH approved material
3. Top of the well casing is at least 6-inched above ground
4. Ground should slope away from the well casing
5. Watertight joints between well casing tiles or other approved material to a minimum depth of 10-feet below the ground surface
6. Water line from the well to the home should be sealed watertight

- Take precautions to prevent the well from being struck by motorized machinery, such as lawnmowers or vehicles
- Prevent cross connections by installing hose bibb vacuum breakers on outdoor spigots
- Never place a water hose inside any type of container when mixing chemicals or solutions
- If there are old unused wells on your property, have them properly abandoned by a [registered well driller](#)
- If your well, well pump or water system requires repair or maintenance be sure to use an appropriately licensed individual
- Have your well water system inspected every five to ten years by a licensed professional
  - ✓ Well pump and its components
  - ✓ Well tank and its components
  - ✓ Well head integrity
- Keep all well records, such as [well completion](#) and water quality reports in a safe, accessible place

Remember that private well owners are responsible for their private well water systems. When you routinely care for your well water system you improve your chances of avoiding a catastrophic problem in the future.



For more information regarding private wells please contact:  
CT Department of Public Health, [Private Well Program](#), (860) 509-7296