



Constructing a New Water-Supply Well in Minnesota

Minnesota Department of Health

Well Management Section
P.O. Box 64975, St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0975
651-201-4600 or 800-383-9808
www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells

Environmental Health Division

In Minnesota, all wells must be installed by contractors licensed by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), except that an individual may construct a well for personal use on land owned or leased by that individual, and used by the individual for farming or agricultural purposes or for the individual's place of abode. In all cases, the well must be constructed according to the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103I, and Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4725.

Prior to the start of drilling a water-supply well, the Contractor or well owner must submit a "notification" form, with the appropriate fee, to the MDH. The "notification" form is available from a licensed well contractor or the MDH. The notification form includes basic information about the well owner, property address, and the licensed contractor hired to construct the well.

Once the notification and fee has been received by the MDH, work may start on the well. The MDH will mail a written confirmation of receipt to the well owner and to the contractor. Once construction is complete, the well contractor must provide a copy of the "Well and Boring Record" to the well owner and to the MDH, which documents construction details of the well, such as well depth, depth to groundwater, geology, well components, and pump information. The well contractor must also have a water sample tested for bacteria and nitrate by a MDH certified laboratory, and send the results to the well owner. The MDH recommends that the well owner keep these records with other important property documents.

Individuals who personally construct wells on their own property for their personal use can obtain the notification form, blank Well and Boring Record, water sample bottle, and well label by contacting the MDH Well Management Section at 651-201-4600 or 800-383-9808.

The procedures for drive-point wells ("sand points") that are installed by a property owner are somewhat different. Notification forms can be obtained from the retailer selling the drive point or from the MDH Well Management Section. No fee is required. Once the drive-point notification is received by the MDH, the MDH will then send a blank Well and Boring Record, water sample bottle, and well label to the well owner.

For a directory of licensed/registered well contractors visit the MDH Well Management Section Web site at: www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells/lwc.

Note: For some other types of wells or borings, such as monitoring wells or vertical heat exchangers, construction permits are required. Permit applications must be submitted to the MDH for review and written approval prior to start of work. Please contact your nearest MDH office for details.

**For more information please contact a well specialist at your local MDH district office.
MDH District Offices**

625 North Robert Street
P. O. Box 64975
St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0975
651-201-4600 or 800-383-9808

705 Fifth Street Northwest
Bemidji, Minnesota 56601
218-308-2100

320 West Second Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802
218-723-4642

1505 Pebble Lake Road
Fergus Falls, Minnesota 56537
218-332-5150

3333 West Division Street
St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301
320-223-7300

1400 East Lyon Street
Marshall, Minnesota 56258
507-537-7151

18 Wood Lake Drive Southeast
Rochester, Minnesota 55904
507-206-2700

Visit the MDH Well Management Section Web site at: www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells.
To request this document in another format, call 651-201-4600.
Deaf and hard-of-hearing: TTY 651-201-5797.