

Your Well Water System

If you are among the millions of Americans who rely on a private water well for your household water supply, you can rest assured that your properly constructed well and pump will provide you with many years of service.

EPA provides information for keeping basic records you need to protect your investment and keep it operating at its best. Templates for maintenance and water test results can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/privatewells> and will prove to be vital information to any professional you may need to hire for repair work.

In Templeton, your well permit is issued through the Board of Health, once the well has been installed this department receives a report with the well information, such as depth, water quality, and location and is filed in a file by street address. The well driller report is also filed with MassDEP.



Development Services

The Mission of the Development Services is to represent the town's private well users and interests. Information available to private well owners:

- <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/private-well-guidelines> - MassDEP
- <https://www.epa.gov/privatewells> - EPA
- <https://www.rcapsolutions.org/private-wells/> - RCAP Solutions

Development Services via the town website www.templetonma.gov

or

Laurie Wiita, Director of Development Services
lwiita@templetonma.gov



For information on well water testing, please go to [Find a Certified Laboratory for Water Testing | Mass.gov](#)

Private Wells



A Guide to Use and Care

*Presented by Templeton
Development Services*

www.templetonma.gov



Water Safety Concerns

Inspect your wellhead several times a year. Check the well covering, casing and well cap to make sure all are in good condition, leaving no cracks or other entry points for potential pollutants.

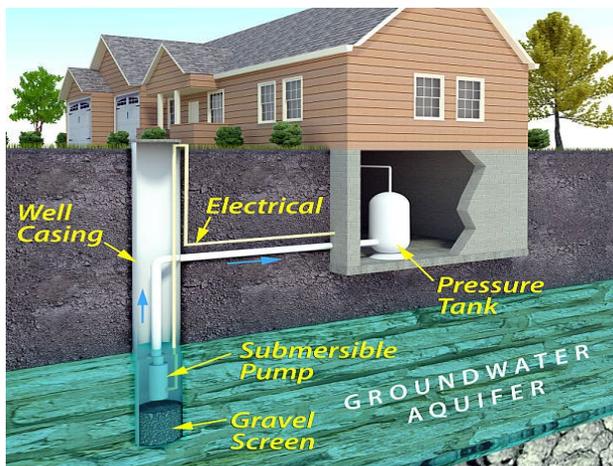
Have the well system, including the pump, storage tank, pipes and valves, and water flow inspected every five years by a licensed well contractor.

If you have no inspection record and cannot determine the age of the well, have it inspected immediately by a licensed well contractor.

When your well reaches the end of its serviceable life, contact your licensed well contractor to install a new system and properly close the old well.

Where Your Water Comes From

Groundwater, which accounts for 30% of the world's fresh water, occurs below the ground where it is filtered 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.

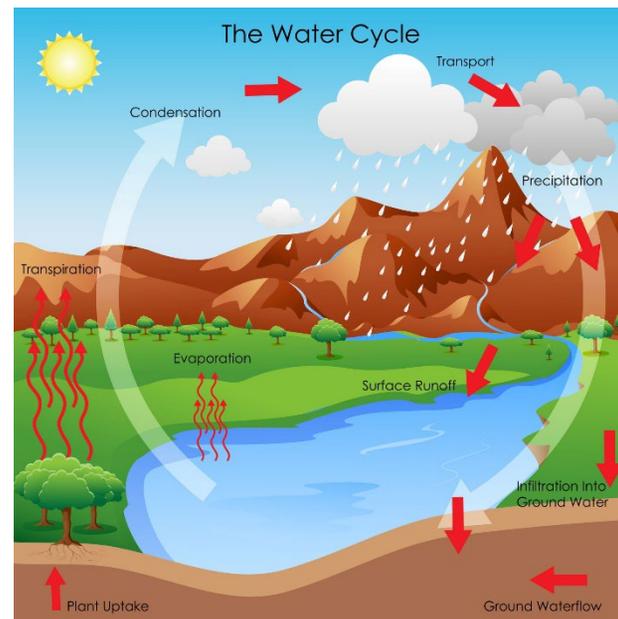


Did you know?

Water on the earth is constantly moving. The water cycle pictured below describes the continuous movement of water on, above and below the earth's surface. Water can change states (liquid, vapor, and ice) at various stages of the water cycle.

Well Permitting Information

Contact Laurie Wiita, Director of Development Services for more information at lwiita@templetonma.gov



Water Testing

Test drinking water immediately if you have no recent test results or any record of previous tests.

At a minimum, your water should be tested every year for bacteria, anything of local concern, or any contaminants that you are monitoring from previous results.

Test if you notice any change in the taste, color, or odor of your water.

Test more than once a year in special situations: someone in the household is pregnant or nursing; there are unexplained illnesses in the family; your neighbors find a dangerous contaminant in their water; or there is a spill of chemicals or fuels into or near your well.

Test after any flooding on or near your well.

Test after disinfecting your well to make sure the process was effective. Note that this treatment process is not recommended as regular maintenance.