

Well & Septic Owner's Checklist

- ◆ Inspect your wellhead and area around it in the spring and fall. Perform maintenance as necessary:
 - Make sure secure cap, vent, an electrical conduit are undamaged and secured.
 - Keep sources of contamination away from it.
 - Make sure your wellhead is at least 12" above grade and the ground around it is sloped away with no depressions where water can sit stagnant.
 - Keep tree plantings away from your well and water line locations.
 - Check all hydrants, faucets, and water pipes to make sure none are leaking, or busted from freezing up over the winter. Properly fix/replace anything damaged, and if necessary, winterize in the fall.
- ◆ At the same time, inspect your onsite septic system. The same rules apply for Lateral and Mound Systems:
 - Vehicles and other heavy objects kept from drainfield and septic tank.
 - Animal confinement areas not located over drainfield and septic tank.
 - No sidewalks, drives, patios located over drainfield and septic tank.
 - No buildings located over drainfield and septic tank.
 - Perennial grass cover maintained; no trees or bushes should be planted over or near a drainfield and septic tank.
 - Have septic tank pumped every 2-3 years.
- ◆ If a lagoon system:
 - Keep fence around the lagoon intact and maintained.
 - Maintain a 2 feet minimum operating depth of wastewater at all times.
 - Keep grass on berm mowed and no trees should grow on the berm or in the lagoon.
 - Keep aquatic vegetation in lagoon managed to allow good airflow and sunlight to reach the water surface.
- ◆ Inspect water treatment systems making sure they are not leaking and operating properly.
- ◆ Review recommended maintenance procedures and filter/media replacement for water equipment according to the manufacturer's specifications. This includes water softeners, filtration systems, and water heaters. Water heaters should be drained/flushed annually.
- ◆ Test for Nitrate & Coliform bacteria annually – best in spring.
- ◆ Be aware of other possible contaminants of concern in your area. Your local NRD, health department, or nearby community water supply can be great sources for this information.
- ◆ If in doubt about issues, contact your licensed water well contractor or certified onsite wastewater professional to make the necessary repairs.