



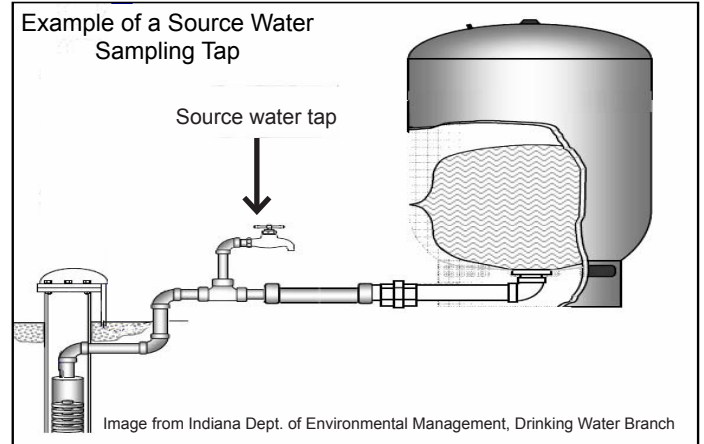
The Groundwater Rule

Maine CDC Drinking Water Program • 11 SHS Augusta, ME 04330 • 287-2070 • www.medwp.com

The Groundwater Rule was established to reduce the risk of illness caused by microbial contamination in public water systems with a ground water source.

As long as your coliform samples are negative, the Ground Water Rule won't change what you do.

When you do have a coliform detection, you must collect a source sample in addition to your normal recheck samples. To collect a source sample, you need a source water sampling tap that is located before any treatment or storage. This helps to identify the source of the problem.



Source water sample taps should be located at least 18 inches above the floor and before any treatment or storage tanks.

The Groundwater Rule requires all public water systems to have a source water sample.

If your source sample has a detection of *E. coli*, you must conduct corrective action.

Corrective action can consist of:

- Identifying a well problem and well repair
- Chlorination that achieves 4 log virus removal
- Replacing the well with a new source

Well Inspection:

Inspect well to look for potential problems. Some questions to consider are:

- Cap watertight and sealed?
- Surface seal intact?
- Camera inspection of the well: casing intact and sealed to bedrock?

Be sure to repair any faults and continue to monitor.

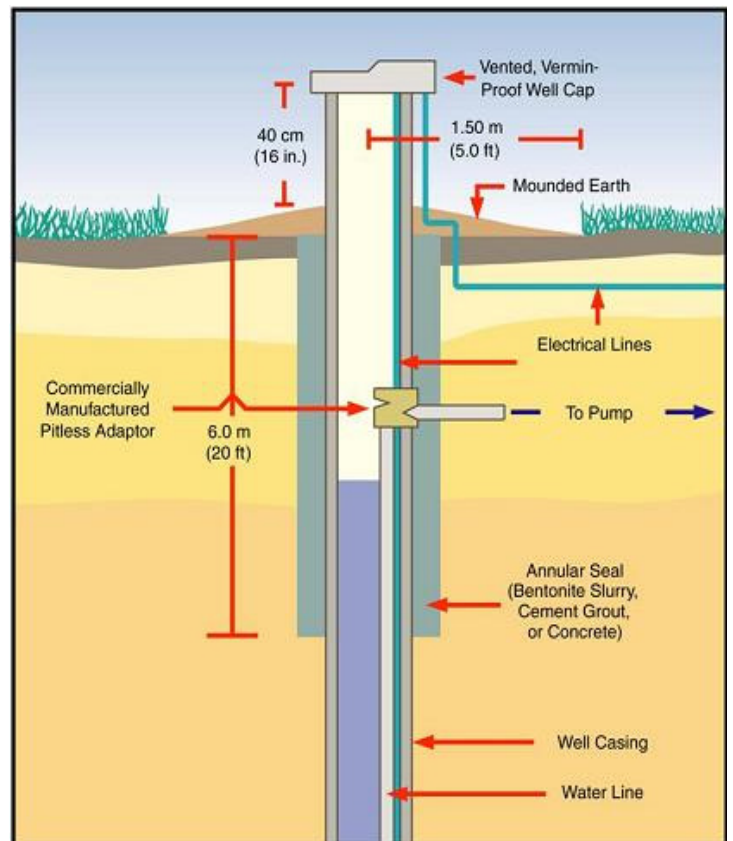
Disinfection:

Four-log virus removal for most Maine ground water sources requires a ten minute contact time and a 1mg/l chlorine residual. If a corrective action includes chlorination, the process must be monitored daily for chlorine residual and the results reported monthly to your public water system inspector.

Well Replacement:

New wells must meet setbacks from potential contamination sources or receive a waiver from the DWP before installation.

A properly constructed well minimizes contamination.



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✓ Protect Your Source

✓ Take Your Samples

✓ Maintain Your Treatment

✓ Inspect Your Pipes & Tanks

Keep Your Drinking Water Safe: