

UPGRADING YOUR WELL

(By Extending the Well Casing)

You may have noticed that after every heavy rain your well water turns a bit cloudy for a few days accompanied with a “funny” smell. The condition clears up shortly and you forget about it. You shouldn’t. If your well is buried or in a below grade pit somewhere out in your yard, it is highly likely you have rain/surface water running into your well via the well vent, power conduit or faulty well sanitary seal.

Before the adoption of the current Public Health Code, section 19-13-B51a-l, effective date 1/12/71, wells were directly buried or placed in cement pipe pits and then buried. The lawn looked better from an aesthetic standpoint and it was out-of-sight, out-of-mind. After 1971 all wells had to be completed at least 6-inches above the final grade.

If you have a buried well and experience intermittent water quality problems, e.g. discoloration, odor, etc., you should have the well water tested and the well brought up to health code standards by raising the well casing at least 6-inches above the final grade.

In considering this work please remember these points:

- **This work is considered a well repair and must be done by a licensed CT well driller or a CT licensed W-5 plumber. They must obtain a permit from either the local Director of Health or Building Official.**
- **The only allowed material for this extension is 0.250-inch thick new steel.**
- **Only well caps and pitless adapters listed in the Water Systems Council PAS-97 (04) listing are approved for use; see their website @ <http://www.watersystemscouncil.org/standards/listing.cfm?std=PAS97>**
- **In all probability the sanitary seal will need to be replaced.**
- **The finished well should be flushed, disinfected and found bacteriologically potable before the water is consumed or used for domestic purposes. Please refer to DPH-Drinking Water Section Fact Sheet # 3. http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Water/Utility/Well_Disinfection.pdf**

For further information refer to DPH-Drinking Water Section Fact Sheet # 20, @ http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Water/Utility/well_casing_extension.pdf

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