



Are you among
the roughly 15 million
American households
that rely on a private
well for drinking water?

If so, you're essentially the operator of your own tiny water system, taking on full responsibility for ensuring that your drinking water is safe and that your well is properly maintained. How can you make sure your water is safe to drink—and that it remains safe to drink?

QUESTIONS?
Contact us:
1-866-522-2681
info@privatewellclass.org
www.privatewellclass.org


THE PRIVATE WELL
CLASS


www.rcgavp.org

ILLINOIS

IS YOUR
WELL WATER
SAFER?



KEEP YOUR WELL WATER SAFE—FOLLOW THESE 3 STEPS

STEP 1

Get your well water tested

Many well owners just assume their water is safe. To truly have confidence in your well it's recommended that you do a baseline test for environmental contaminants such as arsenic and other metals, as well as annual testing for nitrate and coliform bacteria.

Even if everyone in your home *appears* healthy, well testing is critical to identify contaminants, like lead, that post a heightened risk to young children, as well as those that can build up to cause harm over time.

Ask your local health department where to get your well water tested and if there are other groundwater concerns in your area.

STEP 2

Follow these best practices to protect your well

Even if testing shows that your well water is safe, you still need to maintain the well to ensure the safety of your drinking water over time. Following these simple best practices will help you protect your well, and your family:

- **Test your water** annually, as well as anytime there is a change in taste, odor, or color. You should also test if a member of the household is pregnant or there is a new infant in the home.
- **Visually inspect your well** at the end of every season. Make sure the well remains sealed and clear of debris, including plant material. Look for damage to the wellcap and cracks in the visible portion of the well casing.
- **Keep a file** on your well that includes a well log (if you have it), any service records, emergency instructions, and contact information for your local health department, driller, contractor, etc.
- **Take care of your septic system**, do not dispose of kitchen grease in the sink, do not flush personal hygiene products besides toilet paper, and pump your septic tank every three to five years.

STEP 3

Learn how your well works and how to solve problems

The FREE Private Well Class program will help protect your family's health, avoid costly well problems, and extend the life of your private well. The 10-lesson virtual course can be taken on your own time, at your own pace, from your own home. The class will familiarize you with the basic science of wells and the best practices you can use to maintain your well and protect your water supply.

Since 2012, thousands of homeowners have benefitted from the Private Well Class:



This is VERY critical information for the health of homeowners and private well owners, yet so few people understand even the most basic concepts. This was an EXCELLENT course!!

To enroll in the free, 10-lesson Private Well Class, go to privatewellclass.org. You will receive one easy-to-read lesson per week by email, as well as opportunities for additional free learning through online videos and live webinars. To receive your lessons in hard copy, call 1-866-522-2681 or write to info@privatewellclass.org.