

WHAT'S NEXT?

- **Visit** www.wellwater.bse.vt.edu to find a list of drinking water clinics, get your water tested, and learn the basics of caring for your well.
- **Access** our list of licensed well drillers who can inspect your well by visiting www.wellwater.bse.vt.edu/wellcheck.
- **Become** an empowered well owner!

WellCheck is a partnership of the Virginia Household Water Quality Program (VAHWQP), an Extension program that provides affordable water testing and education to Virginians who use wells, springs, and cisterns, and the Virginia Water Well Association, a membership organization of licensed well drilling contractors. Virginia Cooperative Extension helps facilitate connecting homeowners interested in well inspections with licensed contractors, who perform the inspections.



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How well is your well?



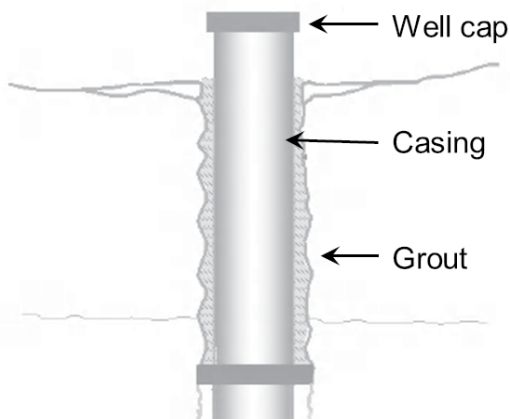
**WELLCHECK
INSPECTION NETWORK**

DOES WELL INSPECTION APPLY TO ME?

If your family relies on a well for the household water supply, you are responsible for the care and maintenance of your water system. For many people, a well is “out of sight, out of mind” until a problem arises, such as a broken pump, water that smells or tastes bad, or someone in the home getting sick from drinking contaminated water. A well should function to prevent surface water, which carries many contaminants, from entering the groundwater supply.

A proper well has:

- A sealed, sanitary well cap
- Secure casing that is at least 12” above ground
- Grout seal to keep surface water out
- Distance from sources of contamination



SHOULD I GET MY WELL INSPECTED?

People rely on auto mechanics to regularly inspect their cars to ensure they are in safe working order. WellCheck offers a similar service for wells. Having a properly constructed, well-protected, and functioning water system is essential for your family's health and safety, as well as your property value.

When should I get my well inspected?

- When you suspect a structural problem that may affect your water quality, such as a missing or old well cap, crack in the casing, no grout seal, pooling water around the casing, or if your well is buried below the surface.
- If you receive a positive total coliform bacteria test.
- If your well was constructed prior to 1992, when the Virginia Water Well Regulations came into effect.
- Every 3-5 years to ensure your well is working properly.
- At the time of property transfer (buying or selling a home with a well).



Wells that are buried, in a pit, or have damage to the cap or casing often result in contamination of groundwater supplies.