

CHAPTER 5

PRIVATE WELLS

5.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this regulation is to ensure that all citizens of Norton have adequate amounts of clean, safe drinking water and to protect the Town's aquifer by requiring the proper siting and installation of all private wells within the Town of Norton.

5.2 Definitions

AQUIFER:

A water bearing geological formation that transmits water in sufficient quantities to supply a well.

COMMISSION:

The Water Resources Commission.

D. E. P.:

Department of Environmental Protection.

POTABLE WATER:

Water that is safe for human consumption.

STRUCTURE:

A manmade arrangement of materials requiring a fixed location on the ground, or attached permanently to something permanently located on the ground.

WELL:

Any hole or shaft constructed into the ground for the purpose of extracting or injecting water.

WELL DRILLER:

Any person, association, partnership, company, corporation, or trust that constructs a water resource commission.

5.3 REGISTRATION:

Any private wells, including Artesian, must be registered at the Board of Health office. This will enable the Board of Health office to keep an accurate account of all private wells throughout the Town and to take appropriate steps to protect the well and the aquifer.

5.4 REGISTRATION OF WELL DRILLERS

No person shall engage in the business of constructing wells within the Town of Norton unless he/she is registered with the Water Resources Commission in accordance with MGL Chapter 21 § 16.

5.5 REPORTS

Within thirty (30) days after completion of any water well, the Well Driller **will** submit to the Board of Health the water well completion report provided by the Department of Environmental Management/Division of Water Resources. The Well Driller **will** ensure the report is complete and accurate.

5.6 WELL CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

A well construction permit shall be obtained from the Board of Health prior to constructing any water well. The well contractor is responsible for obtaining the well construction permit prior to constructing the well. An application for a water well construction permit shall be submitted to the Board of Health. The application will be submitted with a plan drawn to scale and prepared by an engineer or surveyor showing the location of the proposed well, any existing or proposed structures, sewage disposal systems, distance from lot lines, and the location of any neighboring wells or septic systems as listed below and within a radius of two hundred (200) feet. Failure to submit a suitable plan shall cause rejection of the application and may at the discretion of the Board require a new submittal and fee.

5.7 WELL LOCATIONS

The following minimum lateral distances shall apply to common sources of contamination listed:

<u>SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION</u>	<u>MINIMUM LATERAL DISTANCES</u>
Subsurface disposal field	100 feet
Cesspool, seepage pit	100 feet
Septic tank	100 feet
Distribution box	100 feet
Structure	50 feet
Grinder Pumps.....	100 feet
Sewers (Cast iron with watertight joints, footing drains).....	50 feet
Hazardous waste site (commercial fuel tank, landfill, and storing of chemicals)	1000 feet
Junkyard	150 feet
Domestic fuel tank	100 feet
In ground swimming pool.....	25 feet
Above ground swimming pool.....	10 feet
<u>OTHER APPLICABLE MINIMUM LATERAL DISTANCES</u>	
Property line	25 feet
Potable or non-potable water well.....	100 feet

5.8 INSTALLATION

Wells, potable and non-potable, shall be installed at the location shown on the accepted plan submitted with the well permit application. An engineer or land surveyor is required to stakeout the location of the well. Failure to install a well at the accepted location may result in loss of permit and abandonment of the well.

5.9 WATER QUALITY SAMPLING:

A Massachusetts Certified Laboratory must collect water quality samples during the pump test. The water results must have the laboratory person's name pulling the sample and house number on all results. Wells will meet the following chemical and bacteriological requirements:

- Coliform countNot to exceed 0/100 ml @ 35° C
- Standard plate count.....Not to exceed 100/100 ml @ 35° C
- TurbidityNot to exceed 5 units
- Odor and tasteFree of odor and taste good
- PhBetween 6.8 and 8.0
- Chloride Not to exceed 250 mg/L
- Manganese.....Not to exceed 0.05 mg/L
- Sulfate.....Not to exceed 255 mg/L
- Total hardness.....Not to exceed 50 mg/L
- Nitrogen-NitriteNot to exceed 1 mg/L
- Nitrogen-Nitrate.....Not to exceed 10 mg/L
- ArsenicNot to exceed .01 mg/L
- Perchlorate

***Mandatory for new wells only the sample must be taken at the wellhead.

Parameters for volatile organics and other organics **not to exceed current water standards as defined in 310 CMR 22.00.**

Failure to meet these standards shall require treatment. The Board of Health may require additional tests as local conditions warrant. If in the Board of Health's opinion, they are necessary to protect public health and welfare. **It is suggested that the well be tested for drinking water quality yearly and VOC's every 3 years, nitrate-nitrogen test be performed annually.**

5.10 YIELD TEST

All wells shall be tested to determine yield, and water level recovery. All test record and analysis of safe yield shall be sent to the Norton Board of Health. Test pumping shall be conducted at a rate of at least equal to the pumping rate expected during normal well use. A licensed pump or well drilling contractor shall perform the pumping test. A minimum of five (5) gallons a minute yield shall be deemed acceptable.

5.11 WELL WATER TESTING

- A. Well must be pumped to waste a minimum of four (4) hours.
- B. A Mass. State Certified Laboratory must do all well testing and they must take and analyze the water sample after 4 hours of pumping.
- C. If any of the M. C. L. water quality sampling 310 CMR have been exceeded the Board of Health must be notified immediately.
- D. Prior to an occupancy permit being signed by the health agent a 2nd test must be performed in accordance of 5.11 A, B, and C. This test will be taken at the kitchen sink; results from this test must also be less than M. C. L.'s and must be on file in the Board of Health office.

5.12 PUMP INSTALLATION

- A. A person licensed by the Norton Board of Health must install new or replacement water pumps.
- B. The installer must complete an application for this license.
- C. The installer must demonstrate thorough knowledge in the installation of pumps and the proper knowledge of disinfecting the drinking well water. Demonstrating shall be by completion of a questionnaire provided by the Board of Health.
- D. The pump installer is responsible for completing the Board of Health report for the well and all related piping, up to the supply side of the pressure tank.

5.13 TEMPORARY COVER

Whenever there is an interruption in work on the well such as overnight shutdown, inclement weather, waiting periods required for the setting up of sealing materials, tests, installation of the pump, etc. The well opening must be covered to prevent contamination of the well and to also protect the public safety. For interruptions of a week or longer, a semi-permanent cover must be installed. For steel cased well, a steel cover, tack welded to the top of the casing is adequate.

5.14 REPAIR OR DEEPENING OF WELLS

All deepening or repair of wells must meet all the requirements included in these regulations and must be done with a permit.

5.15 NON-POTABLE WATER WELLS

Non-potable water well shall mean wells that are used specifically for agricultural use.

- A. These wells must meet the setback requirements of Title V and the Norton Board of Health regulations.
- B. A Norton Board of Health licensed pump installer must install all submersible pumps.
- C. A plan meeting all the requirements of Sections 5.6 and 5.7 above and showing the proposed connections to the non-potable well must be submitted to the Board of Health.
- D. The water from a non-potable well must be tested for Coliform bacteria not to exceed 0/100 mg at 35 degrees Celsius and Standard Plate count not to exceed 100/100 ml.
- E. All wells must have signs furnished by the Board of Health posted in clear view from the street stating Private Well Reg. #. The Board of Health will furnish the sign once the above requirements have been met.
- F. Non-potable water cannot be brought into any structure that has potable water in it.

5.16 MONITORING WELLS

Monitoring wells shall be installed for any groundwater testing purposes as determined by the Board. A permit **MUST** be applied for prior to the construction of all monitoring wells. All testing data **MUST** be submitted to the Board of Health within 30 days.

5.17 PRIVATE WELL NEAR UTILITY RIGHT OF WAY:

CMR 11.04 (2)(C) restricts the use of herbicides in areas of rights-of-way within 100 feet of the private well.

5.18 LAWN CARE CHEMICALS

No lawn care chemicals are to be applied within 100 feet of any well.

5.19 FEES

The fees for private wells and related items shall be as established in the fee schedule.

5.20 ABANDONMENT

Decommissioning means plugging of an abandoned well so that it will not serve as a conduit for movement of water to or from the well or between water bearing zones.

A licensed well driller must decommission all wells that are to be abandoned.

The fee shall be established in the fee schedule.

5.21 PRIVATE WELL INSPECTION AT TIME OF TRANSFER

At the time of any real estate transfer, a well inspection will be performed, which includes the location of the Private Potable and Non-Potable wells and testing in accordance with these regulations.

The seller shall provide a copy of the private well location and test results to the Town of Norton, Board of Health within thirty (30) days after the inspection has been completed and to the buyer prior to the closing but in no case less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the closing.