



Barry-Eaton District Health Department

Be Active • Be Safe • Be Healthy

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A How-to Guide to Keep Your Well Water Safe

Do you know where your water comes from? Do you have a well? There is no better time than right now to make sure the water you and your family are drinking and using is safe and clean. Taking good care of your well can help retain the value of the well when you go to sell your home. Keep reading for some helpful hints on what you can do yourself and when it may be time to call a professional.

Protect Your Well from Damage:

- Check the well cap on top of the well casing to ensure it is in good condition.
- Take care when working or mowing around your well. A damaged casing could negatively affect the sanitary protection of your well.

Protect Your Well from Contaminants:

- Store hazardous chemicals, such as paint, pesticides, and motor oil at least 50 feet from your well.
- Maintain a “clean” zone of at least 50 feet between your well and any kennels or livestock operations.

Do It Yourself or Call a Professional?

- An annual well maintenance check, including a bacterial test, is recommended. Home owners can perform this test. More information can be found at www.barryeatonhealth.org in the Environmental Health section.
- Drinking water should be professionally checked any time there is a change in taste, odor, or appearance, or when the well system is serviced. More information can be found at www.barryeatonhealth.org in the Environmental Health section.

Know the Area near the Well:

- When landscaping, keep the top of your well at least one foot above the ground. Slope the ground away from your well for proper drainage.
- Always maintain proper space between your well and buildings, sewage systems or chemicals.
- Don't pile snow, leaves, or other materials around your well.
- When your well has come to the end of its serviceable life have a qualified water well contractor decommission it after constructing your new system.

Record Keeping:

- Keep your well records in a safe place. These include the well log, water sample results, and any water well system maintenance reports.

Additional Resources Available:

For more information about protecting and maintaining your well visit www.wellowner.org.

Local resources are also available by visiting the Barry-Eaton District Health Department (BEDHD) website

www.barryeatonhealth.org

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www.facebook.com/barryeatonhealth

at www.barryeatonhealth.com/services/EnvironmentalHealth.org or by visiting or calling one of the BEDHD offices:

For the Hastings office: Call 269-945-9516, Ext. 35
330 W. Woodlawn Avenue

For the Charlotte office: Call 517-541-2615
1033 Healthcare Drive

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