

Landscaping Around Wells

How do backyard practices threaten your drinking water?

Proper management of backyards near private wells keeps these wells from acting as conduits allowing surface water runoff or contaminated water from reaching drinking water sources. If your drinking water becomes contaminated, you may need to install a water treatment system or drill a new well; both of which can cost thousands of dollars.

What Can You Do to Alleviate This Threat?

- ◆ When landscaping your yard, keep the top of the well at least 1 foot above the soil surface. Slope the soil away from the well casing to allow surface water to drain away from your well.
- ◆ Do not pile snow, leaves, or other materials around the well. This will help keep insects, dirt, and other contaminants from entering your well.
- ◆ Do not work with hazardous chemicals such as paints, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, motor oil, etc. near your well.
- ◆ Regularly inspect your well for cracks in the casing and securely attach all well covers.
- ◆ Consider the location of your well when making physical changes to your property.
- ◆ Follow all Minnesota Department of Health required setbacks from buildings and potential contaminant sources.

For More Information Contact:



1281 Hammond Road
White Bear Township, MN 55110
WBT@whitebeartownship.org
(651) 747-2750



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