

# Well Water

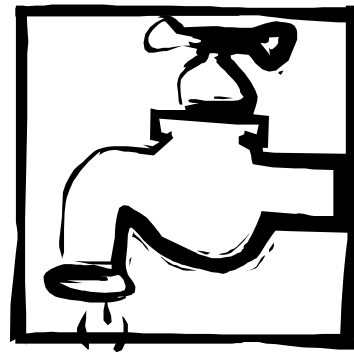
If you need additional water for your enterprise, the following applies to well construction.

To secure a ground water supply, you will need to estimate your water needs, locate a ground water source, obtain a water right (in some cases), select and contract with a well constructor or get the needed Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) authorization to drill the well yourself and properly maintain the well.

The OWRD recommends against drilling your own well. Standards on well depth, casing, sealing, development and yield testing, and developing a well log require specialized knowledge and equipment. Names of local well constructors are available from the OWRD, including local watermasters, and the Oregon Ground Water Association. If you decide to drill a well yourself on your own property, you must: 1) Obtain a landowner's well construction permit and file a \$2,000 bond with the OWRD per well; 2) Construct the well in accordance with state law, general standards and regulations; 3) Before beginning work, submit a well construction "start card" to the OWRD region office and complete a written water well report within 30 days of completing the well.

Estimating Water Needs: If you intend to add activities that involve livestock or other water needs, use the following to estimate peak daily water demand: add the appropriate quantities of water for all uses which would likely occur on the day of the year in which water needs would be highest.

<u>Type of Use</u>	<u>Gallons Per Day</u>
Family & Guest use (per person)	50 - 75
Lawn & Garden	50 - 1,000
Livestock -Cattle/steer (per head)	12
Dairy (plus maintenance per head)	35
Goat/Sheep (per head)	2
Hog (per head)	4
Horse/Mule (per head)	12
Poultry-Chickens (per 100)	5-10
Turkeys (per 100)	10-18



Finding Ground Water: You can learn about the quantity and quality of ground water in your area from local water well constructors and neighbors. Water Well Reports are required by Oregon water law and are a basic tool used in checking for ground water availability. You may examine water well reports at [www.wrd.state.or.us](http://www.wrd.state.or.us), your local watermaster's office or at the Water Resources Department's central office at 158 12th Street NE, Salem. The U.S. Geological Survey and National Water Well Association advise against employing a waterwitch to search for ground water.

Water Rights related to Ground Water - With some exceptions, a water right is needed for use of ground water. The following uses of ground water do NOT require the user to obtain a water right: stock watering; watering a maximum of 1/2 acre of lawn or domestic garden; watering up to 10 acres of lawn, grounds and fields of schools within a critical groundwater area; up to 15,000 gallons per day for single or group domestic use; up to 5,000 gallons per day for any single industrial or commercial use; and down-hole heat exchange.

CONTACT: Water Resources Department  
 158 12th Street NE,  
 Salem OR 97310  
 (503) 378-8455.

For well water testing, contact the Health Division, Drinking Water Section at 503-731-4010.  
 For drainage/sewer construction, contact your local county planning department or DEQ.