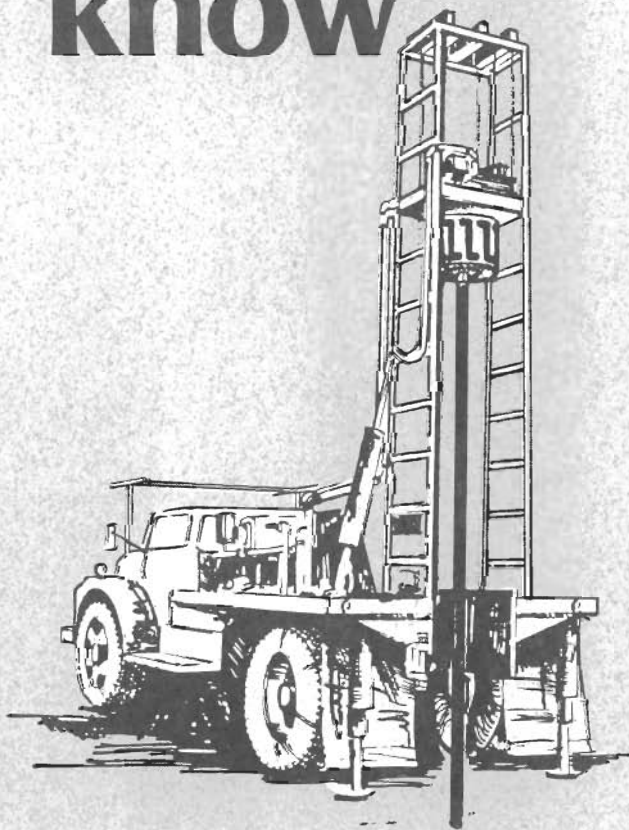


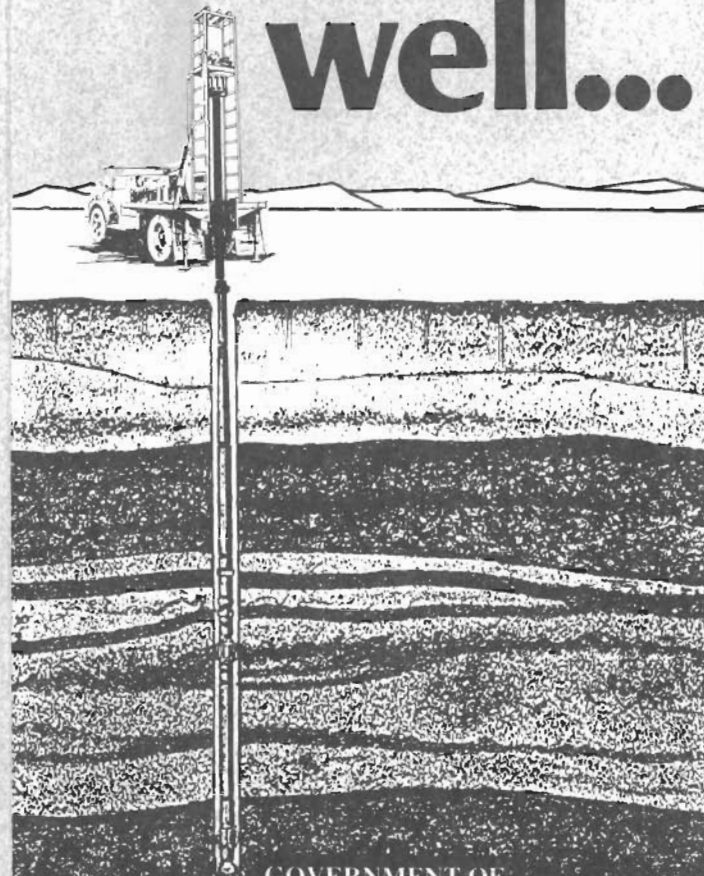
things to know



GOVERNMENT OF
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT
Water Resources Management Division
October 1995



before you drill your water well...



GOVERNMENT OF
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

Is Groundwater Readily Available?

In almost all parts of the province of Newfoundland a relatively pure and ample supply of groundwater can be obtained from an artesian well. A well that is properly planned, installed and maintained will continue to yield the same quality and quantity of water year after year. Here are some of the things you should know to ensure that this will be true for your well.

How Much Water Do I Need?

A home with normal plumbing will need an average of about 300 to 450 litres of water per person per day. Based on this, a rough estimate of your total water requirements can be made. This need however is not spread evenly throughout the day. Instantaneous needs may exceed 10 to 14 litres per minute. A normal artesian well may meet this demand both from storage in the well bore and production. A yield of about 4 litres per minute is usually adequate for most single family residences.

Where Do I Locate My Well?

The Well Drilling Regulations specify the minimum separation between a well and potential sources of pollution as follows:

Septic tank leaching field	16 m
Septic tank	16 m
Sewer or cistern	3 m
Pumphouse floor drain	1 m

In addition, a well must not be located where surface water collects or passes over the well.



How Do I Select A Reliable Driller?

In order to drill water wells in this Province a driller must be licensed by the Department of Environment. Ask to see this license as it ensures that the bearer has at least three years of experience as a driller. Avoid unlicensed "fly by night" operators, as they are not authorized to drill wells in the Province. A licensed driller has to comply with the requirements of the Well Drilling Act and the regulations under this Act which are intended to ensure that your well is properly constructed. We can provide you the names and addresses of the licensed well drillers in the Province.

Once you select a well driller, discuss with him/ her the location of your well, type of casing, pumping test, well water quality and other aspects of well construction. You may also make an agreement with the well driller. We can provide you a sample agreement form for this purpose.

What Is The Water Well Record?

The Well Drilling Regulations require that a standard well record form be completed by the driller for each well he drills. One copy of this record must be given to the owner of the well. Be sure to get your copy duly completed. Your pump installer will need it and it will be required if future servicing becomes necessary.

Do I Need A Pumping Test?

If your well is intended to supply water for domestic purposes to a single family dwelling unit, the Well Drilling Regulations require a bail test or an air lift test of one hour duration to be performed by the driller. If the well is intended to supply water for any other purpose, a test of six to seventy-two hours duration will be required. Such a test must be conducted in a manner approved by the Department of Environment

How Do I Finish My Well?

The Well Drilling Regulation requires that all water wells be accessible for inspection and testing. The Department recommends the use of a pitless adaptor or a properly drained and covered well pit for this purpose. Burial of a well is not an acceptable method. Once the pitless adaptor or well pit is installed the earth should slope away from the well to prevent ponding of surface water.

How Do I Get More Information?

If you want more information please contact us at the following address:

Department of Environment,
Water Resources Management Division,
Groundwater Section
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, Newfoundland
A1B 4J6

Or Phone: 726-5598 or 729-2539