

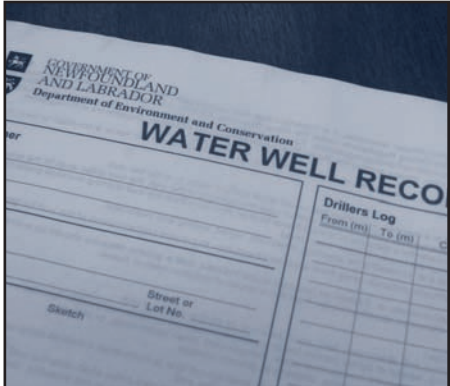
Hiring a well driller

Always hire a DOEC-licensed driller

As set out in the Water Resources Act, a licensed well driller must be trained and certified according to standards set by the Well Drilling Regulations. A list of well drilling companies is available through the Newfoundland and Labrador Government website at: www.gov.nl.ca/Env/env/waterres/Groundwater/ground_water.asp

Some tips:

- Ask to see the license. Confirm that the license is up to date with the DOEC.
- Get more than one licensed driller to provide you with advice, a detailed written description of the proposed work (e.g., expected well depth, unit rates, extra services), and an estimate of the total cost.
- Get references and review past work before making a final decision. Ask the licensed drillers the expectations of water quality and quantity in your area and confirm this with your neighbours.
- Get a signed agreement in writing if there are any changes in the work and cost.
- Pay promptly when the work is completed as described in the agreement.
- Contact the DOEC if you have any questions or concerns about the qualifications or work procedures of drillers.
- Keep all documents relating to your well, pump, pumping test, and maintenance.
- Many licensed water well drillers will provide a yearly service check for a fee.

The image shows a 'WATER WELL RECO' (Water Well Record) form. At the top, it says 'GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR' and 'Department of Environment and Conservation'. The main title is 'WATER WELL RECO'. Below this, there is a section for 'Drillers Log' with columns for 'From (m)' and 'To (m)'. There is also a section for 'Street or Lot No.' and a 'Sketch' area.

Your *water well* records

A well driller must provide you with a copy of a water well record. Each well must have its own well record. Contents include well depth, casing length, water yield test results, a geological log that describes the soil and/or bedrock conditions, well location with GPS coordinates, water type encountered, drilling method, pump recommendations and more.

The well record should be updated when the depth of the well is changed or the well is upgraded or plugged and sealed.

If you don't have a record for your existing well, you can order them from the DOEC. Well records are entered under the name of the original well owner.

Keep your well records in a safe place, in a file with all papers relating to the well. Make copies to give to drillers. Keep them with test results, invoices and descriptions of work completed, filter and treatment system manuals, service records, and reference materials like this booklet.

Records should be provided to new owners on sale of the property.

Resources

Conservation Corps Newfoundland and Labrador. See: www.conservationcorps.nf.ca. This website includes materials and links relating to well water, water conservation and other Conservation Corps' programs. Or email: contactus@conservationcorps.nf.ca

Green Communities Canada. A national umbrella group for community nonprofit organizations that deliver environmental programs and services. See: www.gca.ca. Contact: (705) 745-7479 or fax (705) 745-7294; email info@greencommunitiescanada.org for general inquiries.

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Environment and Conservation. See: www.env.gov.nl.ca/env for acts, regulations and resources relating to water.

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Health and Community Services. See: www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/publications/ehp/drinking_water_awareness.htm for information about safe drinking water.

Newfoundland and Labrador Water Well Association. DOEC licensed well drillers association. Contact: 1-877-312-7870 or Fax: (709) 955-3402.

Resources continued

Environment Canada. Fact sheets and other resources on freshwater conservation and safety and use. See: www.ec.gc.ca/water.

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Government Services. Information on testing, septic systems and other related topics. See: <http://www.gs.gov.nl.ca/gsc/locations.stm>

Canadian Water Quality Guidelines. Information on water quality and safety, including links to water quality guidelines for recreational, drinking and other purposes. See: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/water-eau/drink-potab/guide/index_e.html

Well Aware: A Well Owner's Video. A companion to the Well Aware booklet published in Ontario, Canada (2003) featuring CBC science journalist Bob McDonald. The video can be ordered from the Ontario Ground Water Association website See: www.ogwa.ca

Well Records: Well Records are available from the provincial Department of Environment and Conservation. See previously listed contact information.

Water Testing: Contact your Public Health Department or Government Services Department for further information on well water testing in your area. Try the blue pages in your local telephone book for contact information.

Water Treatment Devices. Check you local yellow pages for listings of companies that sell water treatment devices. Search for: ***water treatment, water purification equipment, water filtration equipment.***

Septic Systems. *Private Sewage Disposal and Water Supply Standards.* Contact the Government Service Centre office nearest you to obtain a copy of this booklet.



Water quality testing diary

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Well maintenance diary

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