



PUBLIC HEALTH
ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND
HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

Chelan-Douglas Health District

200 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Environmental Health: (509) 886-6400 | FAX 886-6449

Email: EHSupport@cdhd.wa.gov

Group A or B Public Water Systems-Well Sites Handout

Your well or spring is most susceptible to contamination from the immediate surrounding area. This area is called the sanitary control area. Washington State Department of Health requires public water systems to maintain a sanitary control area of 100 feet around wells and 200 feet around springs. Your sanitary control area is part of a larger drainage basin called the source water or wellhead protection area. This area collects and transports water and potential contaminants to your drinking water source. The sanitary control area is the first line of defense to prevent contaminants from entering your drinking water system. You must control and monitor your sanitary control area regularly to ensure land uses and activities do not threaten your drinking water source. In the long run, prevention costs much less than finding a new source or installing treatment.

To approve your existing or proposed well point to serve the water system, the sanitary control area needs to be inspected by either the Health District or Washington State Department of Health prior to reviewing or approving the water system engineering. For proposed wells, the Health District recommends having this inspection completed **before** drilling the well point. The Health District will visit the site to document site conditions and any potential issues within and around the sanitary control area. If there are issues within the sanitary control area, you may need a variance or waiver from DOH before proceeding with the water system engineering.

If you have any questions about Group B public water system approval process, please call the Chelan-Douglas Health District at (509) 886-6400, you will be appointed to the sanitarian assigned to your area.

www.cdhd.wa.gov

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