



Operation & Maintenance Plan Water Well (Code 642)

Expected Lifespan

The minimum expected lifespan of this practice is at least 20 years.

A properly operated and maintained **Water Well** is an asset to your property. The purpose of this practice is to improve the distribution and/or increase the quantity of drinking water for livestock. The life of the practice can be assured and usually extended by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation and maintenance to maintain satisfactory performance. The following are some requirements to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

Operation and Maintenance

- Make certain that the well cover is securely in place.
- Install guard post to protect well from damage by vehicles or machinery
- Install and maintain fences to prevent unauthorized human or livestock access.
- Do not allow any foreign debris to accumulate in the immediate vicinity.
- Maintain the soil and protective vegetation in the design conditions.
- Eradicate or otherwise remove all burrowing animals. Repair any damage caused by their activity.
- Repair or replace rusted or damaged metal. Protect by painting.
- Divert all surface water from the immediate vicinity of the well site.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular or livestock damage to any earth fills, structures, outlets or other appurtenances.
- Avoid spreading wastes, handling pesticides or other toxins in the vicinity of the well. Keep these activities at a safe distance as specified by the Vermont Department of Health.
- Establish and maintain a buffer area around the well head as required.

Operation, Maintenance and Inspection Costs

- It is estimated that the annual time to routinely inspect and make minor repairs to your Water Well will be:
 - Inspection = 2 hours/year
 - Minor Repairs = 2 hours/year
 - Mowing = 2 hours/year
 - Major repairs to damage caused by major storm event will require extra time and materials.
- Most minor repairs can be made by the operator using basic hand tools. However, major repairs to well pump, casing, cap, etc. may require hiring a professional experienced in these repairs and improvements.

Specific Site Requirements