

Municipal Code, City of Omaha Nebraska
ARTICLE VI. PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY
SYSTEMS*

***Cross references:** Plumbing, ch. 49; water supply and distribution, § 49-521 et seq.

Sec. 12-116. Sanitation requirements for private water supply systems.

In order to protect the general health, safety and welfare of the people of the city, private water supply systems shall be constructed, used and maintained in accordance with the following standards and requirements:

(1) A well shall be located so as to be no nearer than 100 feet to any septic tank soil absorption system, cesspool or any other known or suspected means of contamination. A well shall be no nearer than 50 feet to any septic tank. Cross-connection of wells which do not meet this requirement with wells which meet this requirement is prohibited. The well shall be located on the upstream side of any septic tank, cesspool or any known source of contamination. The well shall be located at least ten feet from any depression that could retain stagnant water. There shall be no frostproof hydrants within ten feet of the well. Whenever a well must be located on the downstream side of a known source of contamination, specific design criteria shall apply to the well, and shall be established by the Douglas County health department. These special provisions may include berming and extended depth of the well casing seal.

(2) A well shall be constructed so as to exclude dust, dirt or foreign materials of any kind and to exclude surface water and any groundwater above a depth of ten feet.

(3) A private water supply system consisting of a well and/or a well pump and distribution system shall be constructed so as to prevent contamination of the water during the process of extraction from the well and while in transit to the point of use.

(4) A private water supply system shall be used and maintained so as to continue a relationship with the surrounding environment which will assure that the above-mentioned sanitation requirements shall be adhered to as long as the private water supply system is in use.

(5) Special use private water wells may include, but are not limited to, irrigation wells, injection wells, extraction wells and wells designed for the express purpose of thermal transfer. Special use wells shall be constructed in such a manner to exclude pollution or contamination of underground water.

a. Wells designed for the express purpose of thermal transfer, including extraction and injection of groundwater, shall be constructed and maintained so as to exclude any biological or chemical contamination. Thermal well systems shall be independent of the drinking water supply system.

b. A single well designed for thermal transfer utilizing a closed system of recirculating fluid shall use a nontoxic fluid. The use of nonpotable fluids such as ethylene glycol is prohibited.

c. Private wells designed for thermal transfer where water is provided by a governmental subdivision shall be marked nonpotable, and all piping and appurtenances at points of use must be color coded yellow. Any cross-connection between a municipal water supply and a private water well is prohibited.

d. Water pumped from a thermal transfer well(s) must be disposed of properly. This may include lawn irrigation, providing:

1. Water is confined to one's own property;
2. Water is not allowed to pond;
3. No health nuisance is created.

Disposal of water into a septic system is prohibited.

(Code 1980, § 12-116; Ord. No. 33783, § 5(12-116), 1-9-96)