

Annual Well Maintenance Checklist

Keep your private well and water treatment system operating safely and efficiently with this annual checklist. These recommendations are general guidance for Maine homeowners with private wells.

Every Month

- Check water clarity, taste, and odor for changes.
- Verify your water softener has adequate salt (if applicable).
- Check treatment equipment for leaks or unusual noises.
- Inspect pressure tank and plumbing for leaks.

Every 3–6 Months

- Replace sediment or carbon filters according to manufacturer recommendations.
- Clean faucet aerators and showerheads if mineral buildup is present.
- Inspect UV system operation (if installed).

Once Each Year

- Test well water for total coliform bacteria and nitrate.
- Review whether additional testing (arsenic, PFAS, lead, uranium, radon, etc.) is appropriate.
- Inspect the well cap and casing for damage.
- Make sure the wellhead is at least 12 inches above grade and drains away from the well.
- Keep chemicals, fertilizers, and fuel away from the well.
- Schedule professional service for treatment equipment if recommended.

After Heavy Rain, Flooding, or Repairs

- Inspect the well for damage.
- Consider shock chlorination if recommended.
- Retest water before drinking if contamination is suspected.

Keep Records

- Save all laboratory test results.
- Record filter changes and maintenance dates.
- Keep service records and equipment manuals together.

Tip: Water quality can change over time even if it looks clear. Regular testing is the best way to ensure your family's drinking water remains safe.