



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

EHS Circular Letter #2010-24a

TO: Directors of Health and Chief Sanitarians

FROM: Private Well Program, Environmental Health Section

DATE: July 14, 2010

RE: Revised: Minimum Sanitary Separating Distances for <10gpm Private Wells

On a regular basis this office receives numerous inquiries regarding proper sanitary distances for new domestic wells with a withdraw rate less than 10 gallons per minute (GPM). Please refer to the attached summarized minimum sanitary distances chart for distances outlined in the CT Public Health Code, sec. 19-13-B51d. Increasing distances are required for wells with withdrawal rates of greater than 10 GPM. All sources of pollution or potential sources of pollution must be a minimum of 75 feet from new wells.

In many instances sanitary distances are not specified in the Public Health Code. For these occurrences this office has detailed recommended sanitary distances. These distances are GUIDANCE only. No recommendations have been listed for higher yielding private wells, only those with withdrawal rates of less than 10 GPM.

For geothermal well sanitary separating distances please refer to Circular Letter #2008-58.

If you have any questions please contact Ray Jarema or Cliff McClellan of the Private Well Program at 860-509-7296.

cc: Suzanne Blancaflor, M.S., M.P.H., Chief, Environmental Health Section, DPH
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Public Health Code (sec. 19-13-B51d)
Minimum Sanitary Distances for New Potable Wells

Well Withdrawal	<10gpm	10-50gpm	>50gpm
Septic tank, grease interceptor tank, sewage pump chamber, municipal sewage pump station, subsurface sewage disposal leach fields	75	150	200
Raw sewage pumps/vaults located outside the building or below basement slab	75	150	200
Annual high water of surface water body	25	50	50
Surface water drain	25	50	50
Building foundation drain	25	50	50
Approved Sewer pipe listed in Tech. Stds. Table 2, 2A, 2B and 2D.	25	75	100

Distances in feet

Recommended
Minimum Sanitary Separating Distances

Private Wells <10gpm Withdrawal Rate	Feet
Buried Oil/Gas Tank (inc. lines/valves)	75
Above Ground Oil/Gas Tank (w/100% containment & sleeved piping)	50
Buried Propane Tank (less than 2000 gals./greater than 2000 gals.) (See circular letters #1997-28 and #2005-33)	25/50
Wetlands w/standing water	25
Wetlands w/o standing water	10
Composting Piles w/o manure	25
Composting Piles w/ manure	75
Non-Farm Animal Pens, Stables, etc.	75
Geothermal Wells (vertical/horizontal closed loop borehole)	25
Geothermal Wells (vertical/horizontal closed loop piping)	10
Public Swimming Pool – from edge of pool	25
Residential Swimming Pool	
- without drains	10
- with drains	25
Property line	10*
New Subdivisions	75
Storm Water Basin	25
Storm Water Detention Pond (high water mark)	25
On-site Construction “bury” holes	75
“Rain Gardens” edge (w/ designed 6 hour retention time) ie.-1”/hr.	25
Building	10

* As a general consideration for all wells, every effort should be made to keep the entire 75 feet sanitary distance on the residential lot served by the well.