



# MASON COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES

Building, Planning, Environmental Health, Community Health

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## Where Should I Site My Well?

### Group A Well

If your well is a Group A well (serves more than 15 connections **OR** serves 25 or more people for 60 or more days/yr) Mason County Public Health or the Washington State Department of Health must approve the well siting.

The setbacks and placement consideration for a Group A well are:

- The well site should be located on the highest ground possible, up-slope from potential contamination sources.
- The well site must be out of floodway and protected from flooding as well as surface or subsurface drainage.
- If the well is less than 200 ft. to surface water the depth to the first screened interval should be greater than 50 ft.
- The right to exercise complete sanitary control of the land in a 100-foot radius around the well must be secured through recorded covenants.
- The following minimum distances shall be maintained:
  - 100 ft            from sewage systems tanks and drainfields including proposed and reserve sites (provided that the design has been approved for installation by Mason County Public Health), sewer lines, outhouses, sewage lagoons, manure piles, manure lagoons, barns, chicken coops, dog kennels, commercial gardens, compost piles, chemical storage, salt water, houses, garages, county state or federal road right-of-way
  - 1000 ft           from solid waste landfills.

In addition, the Mason County Planning Department administers several regulations which govern the location of development activities such as wells in relation to critical areas including saltwater, streams, wetlands and steep slopes. If any of these are on or near (within 200 ft) your property Mason County Planning needs to be contacted. Planning will need to identify these critical areas and their setback for you.