

567—49.2(455B) Definitions.

“Abandoned well” means a well whose use has been permanently discontinued. A well shall be considered abandoned when its condition is such that continued use is impractical or no longer desired.

“Administrative authority” means the local boards of health.

“Anaerobic lagoon” means an impoundment, the primary function of which is to store and stabilize organic wastes. The impoundment is designed to receive wastes on a regular basis, and the design waste loading rates are such that the predominant biological activity in the impoundment will be anaerobic. An anaerobic lagoon does not include:

1. A runoff control basin which collects and stores only precipitation-induced runoff from an open feedlot feeding operation; or
2. A waste slurry storage basin which receives waste discharges from confinement feeding operations and which is designed for complete removal of accumulated wastes from the basin at least semiannually; or
3. Any anaerobic treatment system which includes collection and treatment facilities for all off-gases.

“Annular space” means the open space between the well hole excavation and the well casing.

“Backflow prevention device” means any device, method or type of construction to prevent backflow of water, liquids, mixtures, or substances into a well or into the distribution pipes of a potable supply of water from any source other than its intended source.

“Cesspool” means a covered excavation, lined or unlined, into which wastes from toilets or urinals are discharged for disposal. Cesspools are not an approved method of sewage disposal.

“Class 1 well” means a well 100 feet or less in depth and 18 inches or more in diameter.

“Class 2 well” means a well more than 100 feet in depth or less than 18 inches in diameter or a bedrock well. Bedrock wells include:

1. Wells completed in a single confined aquifer;
2. Wells completed in a single unconfined aquifer; and
3. Wells completed in multiple aquifers.

“Class 3 well” means a sandpoint well 50 feet or less in depth and having a casing inside diameter of 2 inches or less constructed by joining a screened drive point with lengths of pipe and driving the assembly into a shallow sand and gravel aquifer.

“Compensation for well interference” means payment to the owner of a nonregulated well for damages caused by a lowered water level in the well due to withdrawal of water for a permitted use.

“Confinement building” means a building used in conjunction with a confinement feeding operation to house animals.

“Conforming well” means a well that complies with the standards of this chapter, including wells properly plugged according to 567—Chapter 39.

“Deep well” means a well located and constructed in such a manner that there is a continuous layer of low permeability soil or rock at least 5 feet thick located at least 25 feet below the normal ground surface and above the aquifer from which water is to be drawn.

“Earthen manure storage basin” means an earthen cavity, either covered or uncovered, which, on a regular basis, receives waste discharges from a confinement feeding operation if accumulated wastes from the basin are completely removed at least once each year.

“Established grade” means the permanent point of contact of the ground to artificial surface with the casing or curbing of the well.

“Formed manure storage structure” means a structure, either covered or uncovered, used to store manure from a confinement feeding operation, which has walls and a floor constructed of concrete, concrete block, wood, steel, or similar materials. Similar materials may include, but are not limited to, plastic, rubber, fiberglass, or other synthetic materials. Materials used in a formed manure storage structure shall have the structural integrity to withstand expected internal and external load pressures.

“Grout” means a material used to seal the annular space between the casing and the borehole and shall consist of neat cement, concrete, high solids bentonite slurry, or hydrated bentonite chips.

“Health-related problem” means well water that contains any contaminant at a level that exceeds MCLs (maximum contaminant levels), or HALs (health advisory levels) as adopted by the department of natural resources.

“Heavy drilling fluid” means water used for drilling which because of the natural clay content of the borehole or by addition of bentonite grout has a solids density of at least 10 percent by weight or a mud weight of at least 9.25 lb/gal.

“Low permeability material” means a geological unit of unconsolidated material (usually clay or till) or bedrock (usually shale) that is all or partially saturated, and having permeability low enough (10^{-7} cm/sec) to give water in the aquifer artesian head.

“Nonpublic water supply well” means a well that does not supply a public water supply system.

“Nonregulated well” means a well used to supply water for a nonregulated use (a use of water less than 25,000 gallons per day which is not required to have a water use permit).

“Open feedlot” means an unroofed or partially roofed animal feeding operation in which no crop, vegetation, or forage growth or residue cover is maintained during the period that animals are confined in the operation.

“Permitted use” means a use of water in excess of 25,000 gallons per day which requires a water use permit pursuant to 567—Chapters 50 through 52 and Iowa Code chapter 455B, division III, part 4.

“Pitless adapter” means a device designed for attachment to one or more openings through a well casing. It shall be constructed so as to prevent the entrance of contaminants into the well through such openings, conduct water from the well, protect the water from freezing or extremes of temperature, and provide access to water system parts within the well.

“Pitless unit” means an assembly which extends the upper end of the well casing to above grade. It shall be constructed so as to prevent the entrance of contaminants into the well, conduct water from the well, and protect the water from freezing or extremes of temperature, and shall provide full access to the well and to water system parts within the well. It shall provide a pitless well cap for the top terminal of the well.

“Public water supply” means a system for the provision to the public of piped water for human consumption, if such system has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year. The term includes (1) any collection, treatment, storage, and distribution facilities under control of the supplier of water and used primarily in connection with the system; and (2) any collection (including wells) or pretreatment storage facilities not under the control of the supplier which are used primarily in connection with the system.

“Pump installer” means a person certified by the department to perform pump services.

“Pumps and pumping equipment” means any equipment or materials, including seals, tanks, fittings and controls utilized or intended for use in withdrawing or obtaining water for any use.

“Pump services” means the installation, repair, and maintenance of water systems; modification of the upper terminus of a well; well plugging; well rehabilitation; or the construction of Class 3 wells.

“Runoff control basin” means an impoundment designed and operated to collect and store runoff from an open feedlot.

“Shallow well” means a well located and constructed in such a manner that there is not a continuous layer of low permeability soil or rock (or equivalent retarding mechanism acceptable to the department) at least 5 feet thick, the top of which is located at least 25 feet below the normal ground surface and above the aquifer from which water is to be drawn.

“Stuffing box” means an approved receptacle in which packing may be compressed to form a watertight or airtight junction between two objects.

“Upper terminus” means the upper ten feet of the well casing as measured from the finished surface grade.

“Water systems” means any part of the mechanical portion of a water well that delivers water from the well to a valve that separates the well from the plumbing system. “Water systems” includes the pump, drop pipe to the well, electrical wire from the pump to the first electrical panel or connection outside the casing, piping from the well to the pressure tank or first valve outside the casing, pitless unit or adapter, and all related miscellaneous fittings necessary to operate the pump. “Water systems” does not include any outside piping to other buildings and does not include the piping that carries the water in the remainder of the distribution system.

“*Well*” means any excavation that is drilled, cored, driven, dug, bored, augered, jetted, washed or is otherwise constructed for the purpose of exploring for groundwater, monitoring groundwater, utilizing the geothermal properties of the ground, or extracting water from or injecting water into the aquifer. “*Well*” does not include an open ditch, drain tiles, an excavation made for obtaining or prospecting for oil, natural gas, minerals, or products mined or quarried, lateral geothermal heat exchange systems less than 20 feet deep, nor temporary dewatering wells such as those used during the construction of subsurface facilities only for the duration of the construction.

“*Well construction*” means constructing a water well and installing necessary casing, screen, liners, grout, seals, and other appurtenances.

“*Well driller*” means a person certified by the department to perform well drilling services.

“*Well drilling services*” means new well construction, well reconstruction, well repair, well rehabilitation, installation of pitless equipment, or well plugging.

“*Well liner*” means a pipe used to line the inside of a well hole but not designed to hold hydraulic or structural loading. Liners must be installed within a casing or in an ungrouted open borehole.

“*Well plugging*” means the closure of an abandoned well with plugging materials by procedures which will permanently seal the well from contamination by surface drainage and permanently seal off the well from contamination into an aquifer. “*Well plugging*” includes the proper application of filling and sealing materials.

“*Well reconstruction*” means modification of the original construction of a well. “*Well reconstruction*” includes, but is not limited to, deepening the well, installing a liner, installing or replacing a screen with one of a different diameter or length, installing a pitless adapter, extending the casing, or hydrofracturing a well. Replacing a screen with one of identical diameter and length or replacing a pitless adapter is considered repair, not reconstruction.

“*Well rehabilitation*” means the physical or chemical cleaning of a well.

“*Well seal*” means a device used to cover or seal a well that establishes or maintains a junction between the casing of the well and the piping, electric conduit or equipment installed, so as to prevent water or other foreign material from entering the well at the uppermost terminal.

1. “*Well cap*” means a snug-fitting, watertight device used above flood level that excludes dust and vermin and allows for screened venting.

2. “*Sanitary seal*” means a watertight fitting which uses mechanical compression that is installed on wells that terminate in a wellhouse.

“*Well services*” means both well drilling services and pump services.