

## Conservation Practice Standard Overview

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### Water Well (642)

A water well is a hole drilled, dug, driven, bored, jetted, or otherwise constructed into an aquifer to provide access to a groundwater supply.

#### Practice Information

This practice is used to provide water for livestock, wildlife, irrigation, fire control, and other agricultural uses.

This practice requires proper design and installation to function properly. If practicable, wells should be located on higher ground and up-gradient from sources of contamination or flooding. The potential for adverse interference with existing nearby production wells should be evaluated in planning. Other concerns that should be considered in planning include the potential for groundwater overdraft; the long-term safe yield of the aquifer and potential effects of installation; and operation of the well on cultural, historical, archeological, or scientific resources at or near the site.

Operation and maintenance of a water well includes record keeping of identified problems, corrective action taken, date, and specific capacity (yield per-unit drawdown) of water well before and after corrective action was taken.



#### Common Associated Practices

Once a well has been installed, a distribution system, watering system, and/or irrigation system is usually needed.

Water Well (642) is commonly applied with conservation practices such as Pumping Plant (533), Livestock Pipeline (516), Watering Facility (614), and Irrigation Pipeline (430).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.

