

# Minimum Separation Distances for Private Wells

**Table 1. Minimum Separation Distances for Private Water Wells**

Potential Source of Contamination	Distance (ft.)
<b>Drains and Sewers (also see Farm Structures)</b>	
rainwater downspout; hydrant drain; independent clear water drain; building foundation drain connected to independent clear water or subsoil drain	10
building foundation drain connected to sanitary or storm sewer	15
subsoil drain; loose-jointed field tile drain	50
"sanitary or storm sewer constructed of water-works-grade ductile iron, cast iron, or PVC pipe with mechanical or push-on joints"	25
"sanitary or storm sewer not constructed of water-works-grade ductile iron, cast iron, or PVC pipe with mechanical or push-on joints"	50
sewage lift station or other sewage pump	50
<b>Pits, Vaults, and Tanks</b>	
cistern; well pit; pump pit; pressure-tank pit; subsurface pump room or reservoir	10
private residential fuel oil tank	25
septic tank; wastewater holding tank; watertight grease basin; sanitary vault privy (with a solid-wall wastewater holding tank)	50
"cesspool; dry well; seepage pit or trench; pit privy (with porous brick-, block-, or stone-lined walls)"	100
surface or subsurface tanks used to store chemicals such as gasoline, pesticides, fuel oil, and fertilizer	100
<b>Water Bodies</b>	
stream, lake, or pond shoreline; open ditch or other waterway	25
constructed wetland	100
<b>Farm Structures</b>	
animal barn with concrete floor; stable; milkhouse	50
feeding pen; livestock run; manure pile	50
conventional silo; glass-lined storage facility	50
watertight milkhouse floor drain (other than cast iron)	50
watertight sewer conveying liquid manure	50
manure holding tank	100
silage pit	100
<b>Disposal Sites</b>	
absorption field	100
wastewater absorption, storage, retention, or treatment pond	500

septage or treated sludge disposal area; ridge-and-furrow waste disposal site; spray -irrigation waste disposal site	500
<b>Other</b>	
projection from building (e.g., roof overhang)--clearance for vertical extension of well centerline	5
property line	15
below-ground swimming pool	50
uncovered salt or salt-mixture storage	1,500
residence within 2,500 feet of existing or proposed sanitary landfill--consult Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management / Office of Land Quality	-----
water well terminates in creviced or highly porous formation--maintain greater separation distances than shown above	-----