

HOW CAN YOU PROTECT YOUR DRINKING WATER?

WHERE DOES YOUR DRINKING WATER COME FROM?

Water is a limited and invaluable resource, particularly in a desert environment where average annual precipitation is less than 5 inches. Wells throughout Lahontan Valley are pumped for drinking water. The ground water is recharged by seepage from the Carson River and the canals within the valley.



*Maintain your septic system
Maintain your water well
Dispose of chemicals and waste safely*



Lake Lahontan Photo By Kim Lamb

How Should I Maintain My Septic System?

- Have it inspected by a licensed septic service
- Inspection is needed every 3-5 years on average
- Use a licensed septic service to pump sewage as needed

For more information:

- [What to do About Septic Systems](#)

What Should I Do With My Old Chemicals and Paints?

Paints, oil, grease, batteries, unused medications and chemicals can pollute your water.

- Dispose at proper waste facilities
- Do not flush down the drain or pour in the yard
- Use safer alternative to harsh chemicals when possible

For more information:

- [What to do About Household Chemicals](#)
- [How Can You Properly Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste in Churchill County](#)

How Should I Maintain My Water Well?

Know if your drinking water comes from a private or public well. It is important to maintain and up-keep your well if you are on a private system.

- Test water at least once a year
- Find and correct problems early (dramatic increase in utility bill from pump running continuously, pumping air, change in water pressure, etc.)
- Keep records of repairs, maintenance and water tests
- Be aware of possible contamination sources

For more information:

- [What to do About Private Water Wells](#)
- [Water Testing for Private Well Owners](#)