

HOW CAN YOU PROTECT YOUR DRINKING WATER?

WHERE DOES YOUR DRINKING WATER COME FROM?

Our clean drinking water is an extremely precious resource in Humboldt County. With few exceptions, all of the drinking water in the County comes from private wells or municipal wells. The water pumped from all of these wells starts as rainwater and seeps into the ground in the mountains and surrounding areas. Therefore, what we do to our ground may impact our drinking water.

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 Humboldt 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 upkeep 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](#)

