

WATER WELL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – WELLHEAD PROTECTION PROJECT GUIDELINES

Purpose:

To reduce the risk of contamination of well water by implementing proper construction and maintenance practices and safeguards for existing wells.

1.0 Cost Share Details:

Tier 1 – Outside a Municipal Drinking Water Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA)

Approved projects funded at 80% up to a maximum of \$750 per well.

Tier 2- Within a Municipal Drinking Water Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA)

Approved projects funded at 80% up to a maximum of \$1,500 per well.

For farm properties, the completion of an Environmental Farm Plan is highly recommended but not required prior to grant payment. WWIP grants may be combined with other funding sources. Combined grants are not to exceed 100% of total expenses. Applicants must inform WWIP staff of additional cost share funding.

2.0 Eligible Projects:

Upgrading water wells to meet R.R.O. 1990: Wells, Ontario Regulation 903 including:

- Installing pitless adapter and filling drilled well pits.
- Grading and permanently seeding soil surface to divert water away from well head.
- Sealing annular space around well casing.
- Upgrading or replacement of casing.
- Extending well casing to 16" (40 cm) above finished ground level.
- Proper well head caps
- Installing proper well head caps (vermin proof)

3.0 Project Details:

- In accordance with R.R.O 1990: Wells, Regulation 903 of the Ontario Water Resources Act, any alteration to the well must be completed by a licensed well contractor. The contractor is required to complete a Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Well Record to document works undertaken on the well. A copy of the Well Record must be submitted upon completion to the program staff.
- Well pits must be properly decommissioned when a drilled well casing is extended.

- If you have an existing well record for the well that you are proposing to upgrade, please include a copy with the application form. If you do not have a well record, please contact the Water Well Help Desk at 1-888-396-WELL (9355) or helpdesk@waterwellontario.ca or use the website map tool at www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/map-well-records
- A directory of Licensed Well Contractors in Ontario can be found here: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/find-licenced-well-contractors>.
- If you want to find out more about Municipal Well Head Protection in your area go to Source Water Protection Portal for mapping: <https://swpip.ca/>

4.0 Eligible Costs:

- Licensed contractor fees.
- Any labour or materials associated with proper well plugging procedures.
- Wiring and plumbing costs associated with well upgrades

5.0 Ineligible Costs:

- Well upgrades in buildings. They will be considered for the well decommission grant.
- Well pumps, water purification or treatment systems.
- Labour and machinery use of the applicant, family dependents and the applicant's business.
- Grant will not be paid on HST if the applicant is entitled to a HST rebate.

Water Well Improvement Program Contact Information:

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