



# MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Well Management Section, Environmental Health Division  
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## PROTECTING YOUR WELL

A well provides a reliable, safe source of drinking water when the well is properly located, constructed, and maintained. You can ensure the safety of your drinking water by testing the water periodically, keeping potential sources of contamination away from the well, and sealing unused wells.

This fact sheet provides basic information to assist you in protecting your well. Additional information about wells and well water can be obtained from a well specialist at the Minnesota Department of Health (see locations on back) or from your local health department. The requirements of law and rule are found in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 1031, and Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4725 (well code).

**LOCATION** The diagram below indicates the minimum separation distances required between wells and some common sources of contamination. A complete listing is found in Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4725. Minnesota law requires that these distances must be maintained when constructing a new well; installing potential contaminant sources, such as a fuel storage tank, septic system, or a feedlot; or when constructing new buildings, or adding onto existing structures or facilities.

