

FAQ – Private Water System Springs

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3701-28-13

December 2012

Question:

- 1. A property owner wants to intercept water that is 10 feet deep. Is this a well or a spring?**

Answer: Under the Ohio's Private Water System rules OAC 3701-28-01 (BBBB) a "Spring" is defined as a private water system where ground water flows naturally from rock or soil onto the land surface or into a body of water or a shallow aquifer that is intercepted at a depth of ten feet or less. In addition to meeting all isolation requirements of OAC 3701-28-07, the spring source must be under control of the property owner 200 feet upslope and 50 downslope of a spring. This control includes providing additional protection upslope by constructing diversion ditches. There are no grouting requirements for casing used to intercept springs. Casing used for springs must meet potable water (PW or WC) requirements and may not be installed using DWV (drain, waste, and vent pipe). Springs being used as private water system are required to have continuous disinfection and cyst reduction filters installed in accordance with OAC 3701-28-15.

If the water source is any deeper than 10 feet it is considered a private water well and must comply with all of the well construction requirements in OAC 3701-28-10. That includes meeting grouting and casing standards.