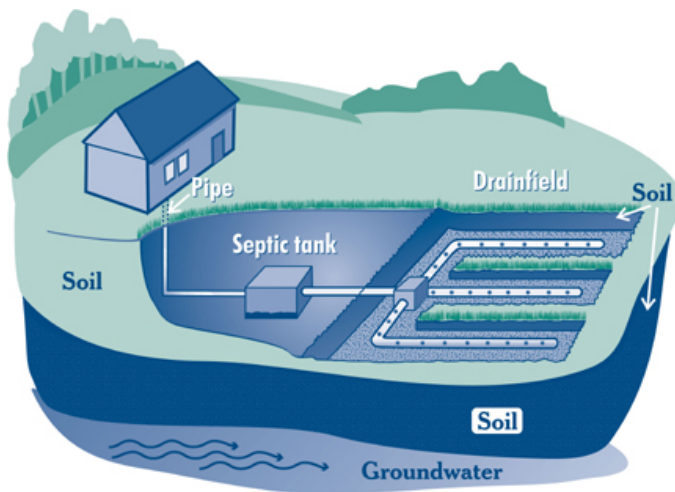




**Oregon State University**  
**Extension Service**  
**Marion County**

**Free Rural Living Basics Webinar: Living with your well and septic system**

*By Alli Studnick, OSU Groundwater Quality Education Student Intern*



*Sewer and Septic Field Diagram*

Did you know there are possible toxins in your well water that you cannot see, taste, or smell? Nitrate, coliform bacteria, and arsenic can cause a number of health issues when not treated. We encourage well owners to get their water tested once a year for these three specific contaminants.

Municipal water is regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) so consumers can be very confident that the quality of the water coming from their tap is sufficient.

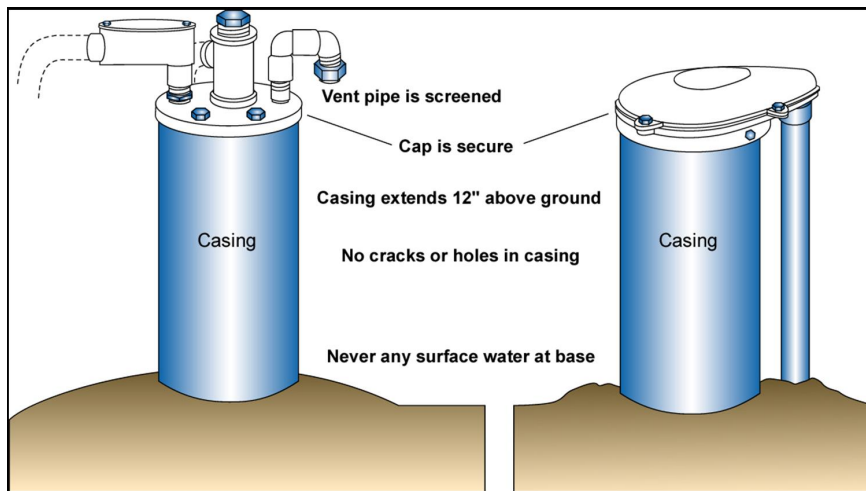
However, well water does not face such stringent regulations and contamination testing often only occurs when the well is first installed or in some locations when property ownership changes.

Therefore, it is very important that well water users understand when and how to monitor their water quality and the associated benefits of doing so.

Rural Living Basics is a FREE presentation designed for rural residents to learn the basics about groundwater used for their drinking water and septic systems. It teaches the necessary steps to protect the health of your family, neighbors and animals, your property investment, and the safety of groundwater resources.

The class will be held as a webinar on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from 6 to 8:30 PM. Pre-registration is required since it will be held via Zoom. Email Allison.studnick@oregonstate.edu or call 541-713-5009 to pre-register.

A water quality educator will be available on December 14<sup>th</sup> to answer questions about well water and septic tank issues. For additional information on well water and septic systems, free Rural Living Basics classes, and how to get your water tested for free, visit the OSU Extension Service website at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/marion> or call 503-588-5301.



*Well Inspection Points*

To learn more about the Well Water Program at OSU, go to <https://wellwater.oregonstate.edu/>. The OSU Extension Mid-Willamette Valley Small Farms website may also have information of interest to Marion County famers- <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/smallfarms/mid-willamette>