

PRIVATE WELL OWNERS

Drought Preparation and Potential Impacts

No one can predict who will have a drought related well problem. Keep in mind, wells throughout the County can face problems. In the valley, shallow wells (less than 100 feet deep) are most at risk during the middle of summer in July and August around peak irrigation season. In the foothill areas, wells pump water from fractured rock formations which are much more directly dependent on snowfall and precipitation. These wells are at higher risk for reliability problems until the rainy season begins again.

Fractured Rock

In the foothill and mountainous areas of Butte County, groundwater can be found in the cracks or fractures of hard rocks. These fractures store water and yield small amounts of water to wells that intersect the fractures. Only a relatively small

quantity of groundwater is stored in the fractures of these rocks. This makes wells in fractured rock areas most vulnerable to drought.

Alluvial Groundwater Basin

The majority of groundwater is stored in what is commonly called “dirt” or “soil,” but is more technically described as alluvium (loose gravel, sand, and silt) which has spaces between the grains. Alluvium is found in the valley portion of Butte County. Groundwater level monitoring occurs only in the valley because observations from a single well can provide information on broader conditions and trends in an alluvial groundwater basin. This is not the case for a well in fractured rock.



HELP! I'm having problems with my well.

1. Call a pump contractor.
Find a pump contractor by searching online at, <http://www.wellowner.org/finding-a-contractor/contractor-lookup/>.
If you have pressure or flow problems, consult with a local, licensed well driller or pump company to determine the cause of the problem.
2. Store water. If you have the ability to store water or purchase an FDA approved storage tank, use only licensed water haulers for delivery of potable water. There are currently seven licensed water haulers in Butte County. For a complete list of water haulers in California, visit <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/Pages/FDBPrograms/FoodSafetyProgram/Water.aspx>
 - Ben Porta Showers, 530.846.4110
 - Butte Valley Water Delivery, 530.552.0145
 - Patane Farms, Field Services, 530.682.6680
 - L & L Farms, 530.521.3147
 - Tough Company Fire, 530.228.5384
 - Butte Water Truck Service, 530.589.0645
 - Craig Dewsnup Trucking, 530.846.3116

The above list is from the State Department of Public Health and is not an endorsement by Butte County.

Let us know...

Let us know about well problems by voluntarily reporting them using the online form on the My Dry Water Supply webpage: <https://mydrywatersupply.water.ca.gov/report/>. Specifying your address is not required. For assistance filling out the form, you can contact us at 530.552.3593. This information will assist the County and State's drought assessment efforts and help us better understand groundwater conditions. Reported data can be viewed on the SGMA Data Viewer Map located at: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/web-gis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#gwlevels>

PRIVATE WELL OWNER CHECKLIST

1. Get your Well Log

This should tell you the total depth of your well and other information about the well's construction. A copy of your Well Log, also known as a Well Completion Report or Well Driller Report, is available from the Department of Water Resources North Region Office. If DWR cannot locate your Well Log, you may also request your well depth information and Well Log from the Butte County Public Health Environmental Health Division.

You can request your well depth information and well log through the Department of Water Resources Northern Region Office in Red Bluff using the Well Completion Reports Request form located at <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Wells/Well-Completion-Reports>, or by calling 530.529.7368 or emailing NRO_WCR@water.ca.gov.

2. Find pump depth and water level

Know the depth of the pump in your well. This may be recorded on installation receipts, or may be available from the pump company which performed the installation. Annual well maintenance is also recommended. Have your well serviced to check pump performance and the depth to water level in your well measured.

For more information, drought updates and programs to mitigate drought impacts, please visit:

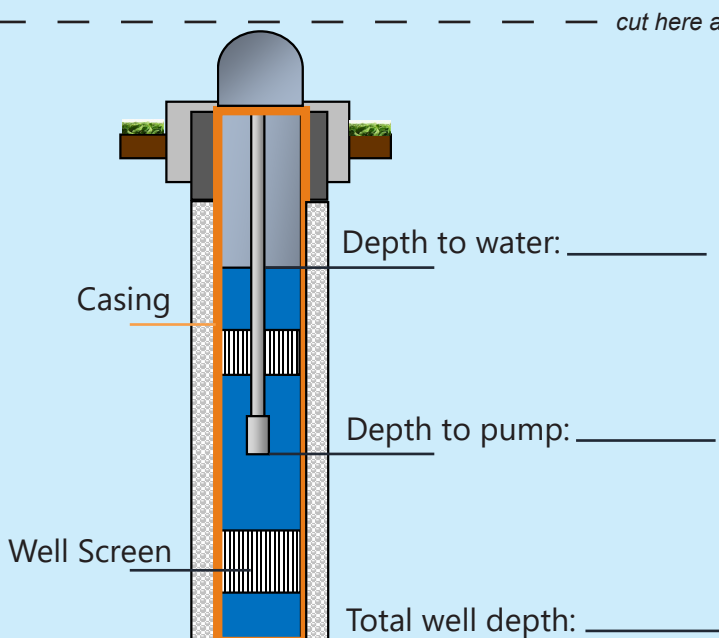
www.buttecounty.net/waterresourceconservation/buttecountydroughtinformation

3. Identify nearby monitoring wells

Once you know the total depth of your well, where it is screened, and how deep your pump is, you can compare your information to local groundwater conditions in nearby monitoring wells.

Depth to groundwater for monitoring wells in your area can be viewed at the SGMA Data Viewer located at: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer#gwlevels>

Use the map to find a monitoring well near you.



Facts about my well.

Do I have my well log? Yes | No

Date of last service: _____

Am I in the groundwater basin or fractured rock? _____

Is there a nearby monitoring well? Yes | No



Water & Resource Conservation
Phone: 530.552.3595
bcwater@buttecounty.net