

Water Usage

Water wells come in various depths and recovery rates. Wells in Northern Minnesota range anywhere from 15 feet to over 1000 feet in depth. A well's recovery rate (how quickly it replaces water pumped from it) can also vary quite a bit.

How you manage your well water usage generally is an important consideration.

Consider the following scenario:

Your 6" diameter well is 75 feet deep, has a standing water reservoir of 90 gallons and a recovery rate of 4 gallons per minute. You all just finished your morning showers, did a couple loads of laundry back to back and before you headed out to the supermarket you turned the lawn sprinkler on. You then arrived back home to find your water full of sediments and discoloration, lots of air spurting out of the faucets and the flushing mechanism in the toilet tank is sand locked.

??? WHAT HAPPENED ???

You pumped the level in your well down too low. The demand placed on your well was greater than its ability to recover thus upsetting the water bearing formation that supplies your well.

Similar scenarios can happen with deeper wells too.

Generally it's always a good idea to space your water usage throughout the whole day. Drawing your water level in the well down too far can so often upset the well. Some wells are so temperamental about this issue that the pump output has to be governed down to keep the well from heaving up large quantities of sediment thus resulting in a plugged well.

Tips for conserving water:

Watering the lawn:

Keep the watering intervals short. ex: On a timer, 5 minutes on, 25 minutes off.

Washing the car:

Don't let the rinse water run while soaping the car.

Laundry:

Space out the loads. Consider front loaders for less water usage

Toilet:

This can so often be the biggest offender. A running toilet can and often does destroy well pumps. Check the tank levels. Keep the level 1 inch below the over flow. Pour some food dye in the tank. If it ends up in the bowl your stopper flap is not sealing.