



Hello Real Estate Agent:

We hope the following information will assist you.

#### WELL WATER TESTING.

Anoka County, as well as numerous contract laboratories, provides service to analyze water. The County's program (Well Water Wise) requires an individual to collect and submit a water sample to our office for analysis. We recommend that homeowners annually test their private well for coliform bacteria and nitrate-nitrogen:

[http://www.co.anoka.mn.us/v2\\_dept/ches/well-water-testing.asp](http://www.co.anoka.mn.us/v2_dept/ches/well-water-testing.asp)

In connection with the potential sale of a property served by a private well - we recommend that a commercial laboratory collect and analyze the water sample. Anoka County does not provide the service to collect the sample. However, contract laboratories will collect and analyze water samples. Contract labs can be found in the telephone directory under "water analysis." Only laboratories, certified by the Minnesota Department of Health, should be used to analyze the safety of drinking water using approved equipment and methods. The current list of certified labs can be found on the MDH web site:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/phl/cert/allcertlabs.html>

#### WELL INFORMATION.

Regarding your inquiry about well(s) information - Anoka County does not regulate or record the construction of wells. Information that we have on wells is obtained from the Well Management Unit of the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

(<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/cwi/index.html> or call 651-201-4600)

The MDH Well Management Unit: licenses well drillers; requires a permit be obtained before the driller constructs a well; requires the driller to submit an MDH well construction report (with well number) for each well constructed; and requires the seller of a property to disclose the presence of wells at the time of property transfer (MN Stat. 103I.235). Also, the MDH requires that all unused wells be sealed or obtain an annual maintenance permit. .

Well Construction Records (County Well Index): The MDH has established a database, called the County Well Index (CWI), which you can use to search for well construction reports:

[www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/cwi/](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/cwi/)

Well Sealing Records: The MDH maintains records on the wells sealed in Anoka County. To verify that a licensed well contractor has sealed a well and filed a "Well and Boring Sealing Record you may contact the Well Management Section (651-201-4600;

[health.wells@state.mn.us](mailto:health.wells@state.mn.us))

Well disclosure certificate: The MDH has established a database for accessing Well Disclosure Certificate Information, which you can use to search for disclosures of known wells made by previous owners of a property:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells/disclosures/database.html>

Where can I get more information or help?

If you have any questions about your well or well water quality in greater Minnesota contact your local Minnesota Department of Health office, [www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells/contactus.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells/contactus.html), and ask to talk with a well specialist or contact the Central Office at [wells@health.state.mn.us](mailto:wells@health.state.mn.us) or by telephone at 651-201-4600 or 1-800-383-9808. TDD through the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 and ask for 651-201-4600.

## SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Septic systems construction, operation, maintenance, and abandonment is managed by the 21 municipalities in Anoka County under their development and building ordinances. If the property is located within the County's shoreland district, and the sewer system was constructed since July 1, 1972, the Department may have some records concerning the design and inspection in relation our permitting of its construction.

Anoka County does not perform inspection or certification of septic systems in relation to the sale of a property. We recommend that you contact a state licensed inspector to perform an inspection of the septic system. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency licenses septic system professionals. A list of licensed septic system professionals can be found on the MPCAs web page:

<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/programs/ists/registration.html>

The University of Minnesota's Extension Service website provides extremely useful information on septic systems as well :

<http://septic.umn.edu>

Thank you.

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Know The Flow is an education and outreach program of local health, environmental, and natural resources agencies in Anoka County, Minnesota. The Anoka County Water Resources Task Force and the Anoka County Municipal Wellhead Protection Group have established the Know The Flow website ([www.KnowTheFlow.us](http://www.KnowTheFlow.us)) to provide a coordinated approach for informing residents, businesses and property owners regarding water management programs.