

Plan Review Guidance Table

NONCOMMUNITY PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

Minnesota Administrative Rules, Chapter 4720, Public Water Supplies requires plan review and approval for installations and modifications to public water systems.

[4720.0010 WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE SYSTEMS](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/4720.0010/)

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This document focuses on the implementation of the rule for **noncommunity public water systems** (NPWS), and provides general guidance on what type of projects require plan review and approval by the Minnesota Department of Health, Drinking Water Protection Section (MDH DWP).

Guidance for Using the Table

The table is organized based on the type of project (e.g. water treatment, water storage, et cetera) with example construction and modification plans below each project type. Each plan falls under three categories:

- **Plan Review Required:** Plan review and approval is required by MDH before the work can be performed. In most cases, plans are to be submitted by a registered professional engineer, or licensed professional qualified to perform the work (e.g. a well contractor can submit plans for constructing a water service line). Guidelines for what to submit to MDH based on project type are available on the internet at the following webpage:

[Plan Review for Noncommunity Systems](http://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/planreview/noncommunity.html)
(<http://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/planreview/noncommunity.html>)
- **Notify MDH:** Plan review and approval is not required, but MDH should be notified prior to the work being done. Please notify the relevant MDH Plan Review Engineer or local MDH Sanitarian with the work information via phone or email. MDH may request additional project information for record-keeping purposes.
- **Plan Review Not Required:** Neither plan review nor notification are required by MDH DWP. **Note:** this does not exempt any plan review or inspection requirements from other agencies or licensing authorities, such as the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) or the Minnesota Department of Health, Food, Pools, and Lodging Services Section (MDH FPLS).

To submit plans, or for questions regarding plan review, contact the MDH Plan Review Engineer:

- Phone: 651-201-4699
- Email: health.NoncommunityPlanReview@state.mn.us

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Noncommunity Water System Wells

Construction, maintenance, or sealing of a well must be performed by a licensed well contractor.

Type of Project	Plan Review Required	Notify MDH	Plan Review Not Required
Construct new noncommunity public water supply well		X ¹	
Construct, modify, replace water service line	X		
Replace pump with identical pump			X ²
Replace pump with dissimilar pump	X		
Install Variable Frequency Drive (Pressure tank installations and water service line modifications require plan review by MDH.)		X	
Construction or maintenance on well casing		X ¹	
Well maintenance (replacing screen, disinfection of well)			X
Well sealing		X ¹	
Private-use to public-use conversion of constructed well	X		

Surface Water Intake Structures

Type of Project	Plan Review Required	Notify MDH	Plan Review Not Required
Modify surface water intake structures	X		
Replace intake pump with identical pump			X ²
Replace intake pump with dissimilar pump	X		

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Water Treatment and Pumphouses

Type of Project	Plan Review Required	Notify MDH	Plan Review Not Required
Install, modify, or remove point-of-entry water treatment	X		
Install or modify point-of-use water treatment (Plan review is required by DLI.)		X	
Gravity sand filter rehab, modification, or coating	X ³		
Replace media with identical media		X	
Replace media with dissimilar media	X		
New permanent or temporary chemical injection	X		
Change of chemical feed type (i.e. from gas chlorine to sodium hypochlorite)	X		
Replace chemical feed pump with identical pump			X ²
Replace chemical feed pump with dissimilar pump	X		
Relocate chemical injection point	X		
Replacement or installation of chlorine cabinet	X		
Wellhouse (i.e. a building containing a well) construction	X		
Pumphouse Construction (Building containing water treatment or supply equipment, including pressure tanks, greater than 3ft by 3ft in horizontal dimensions)	X		

Drinking Water Storage

Type of Project	Plan Review Required	Notify MDH	Plan Review Not Required
New ground-level or elevated drinking water storage	X		
New pressure tank	X		

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Type of Project	Plan Review Required	Notify MDH	Plan Review Not Required
Replace storage tank with identical tank		X	
Rehabilitation, painting, or coating storage interior	X ³		
Exterior painting, coating			X
Mixing system installation	X		

Booster Stations

Systems or equipment that increase pressure or feed additional chemicals downstream of the main treatment plant in a water supply system.

Type of Project	Plan Review Required	Notify MDH	Plan Review Not Required
New booster station	X		
Change pipe configuration, size, or materials	X		
Replace booster pump with identical pump			X ²
Replace booster pump with dissimilar pump	X		
Install emergency generator	X		

¹ Prior to constructing or sealing a public water-supply well, the Contractor must submit a notification, with the appropriate fee, to the MDH Well Management (WM) Section and provide verbal, written, or in-person communication of the start date/time to WM field staff at least 24 hours before beginning construction of the well. A notification may be required if casing for an existing well is worked on below the frost line or if the well is deepened through a confining layer, per Minnesota Rules, part 4725.1820. For more information on well notifications and fees contact the Well Management Section at Health.Wells@state.mn.us or 651-201-4600.

² Effective January 4, 2014, the Reduction in Lead Drinking Water Act requires all drinking water system materials and products including plumbing pipes, fittings, and fixtures introduced into commerce or for use must meet the new “lead-free” definition. This definition has been revised from not more than 8 percent to mean “not more than a weighted average of 0.25 percent lead when used with respect to the wetted surfaces of pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings and fixtures. If the equipment does not meet the “lead-free” requirements, replacement with identical equipment is not allowed.

³ Plans must be submitted by a registered Professional Engineer.

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 To obtain this information in a different format, call
 651-201-4700