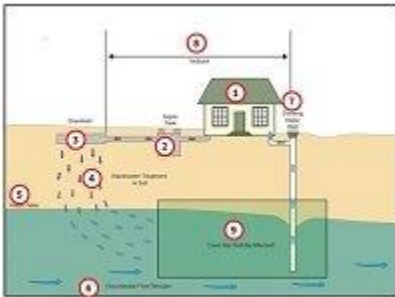


# How Your Septic System Can Impact Nearby Water Sources

Septic systems can impact local drinking water wells or surface water bodies. The extent of this impact depends on how well your septic system is maintained and if it is used properly. Click on the links below to learn more about how septic systems interact with drinking water wells or surface water bodies and how to keep them healthy.

## [Septic Systems and Drinking Water](#)



Septic systems provide wastewater treatment for many homeowners who also often get their drinking water from private wells. If a septic system is not working properly or is located too close to a drinking water well, contaminants from the wastewater can end up in drinking water. Learn how to locate, operate, and maintain your septic system to protect nearby wells.

## [Septic Systems and Surface Water](#)



Many homeowners rely on septic systems for safe and effective treatment of their wastewater. Household wastewater is treated by a septic system before it filters into the soil. Recycled water from a septic system can help replenish groundwater supplies; however, if the system is not working properly, it can contaminate nearby waterbodies. Learn how nutrients and pathogens from your septic system may impact streams, lakes, or other waterbodies near your home.

## [Septic System Improvements to Protect Nearby Water Sources](#)



As a homeowner, there are several steps you can take to prevent your home's septic system from impacting nearby water sources. Some are simple while others can be more involved and expensive. Consult with a professional in your area before making significant upgrades to your septic system.