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The Well Aware booklet was compiled by Conservation Corps Newfoundland and Labrador, in partnership with Green Communities Canada. Project Editor: Simone Kielley. Original Design: Creative Feats Inc, Stratford, adaptation by: Conservation Corps Newfoundland and Labrador.

Thanks to representatives of the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Environment and Conservation and Department of Health and Community Services. Special thanks to Green Communities Canada for access to all original Well Aware materials. Thanks for permission to use materials from: Best Management Practices: Water Wells, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food; the Well Aware video, the Well Aware Video Working Group; and How Well is Your Well, Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Ontario Branch, Inc.). All responsibility for content rests with the Department of Environment and Conservation and Conservation Corps Newfoundland and Labrador.

Funding provided by the Environment Canada's EcoAction Funding Program, printing support provided by the Department of Environment and Conservation, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Published 2005 by the Department of Environment and Conservation. Excerpts welcome with permission





Acronym List:

DOEC - Department of Environment and Conservation

EHO - Environmental Health Officer

GHG - Greenhouse Gas

NSF - National Sanitation Foundation

Be *well* aware

Your family's health *depends* on it!

Your well taps into one of nature's treasures – cool, clean groundwater.

You and your family depend on this precious resource every day for cooking, washing, and a continuous supply of safe drinking water.

About this booklet

As a private water well owner, it is your job to be well aware — to understand the basics of well maintenance and operation, and to take the necessary actions to keep your water well in safe running order. This booklet is a guide to caring for your well and protecting the groundwater in Newfoundland and Labrador.

To improve your working knowledge of wells and the well life cycle, read the sections on groundwater, well type, well location, construction, upgrading, and proper plugging and sealing of unused wells.

For an outline of your ongoing responsibilities as a well owner, read the sections on well maintenance, including well water protection, pollution prevention and water conservation. An inspection and maintenance routine is recommended for every well on your property.

For a better understanding of well water quality issues and what to do about them, read the sections on groundwater basics, potential water contaminants, testing, remedies, and treatment systems.



The back of the booklet includes information about hiring well drillers and using your well record. Further resources and contacts are listed. Handy diaries for water testing and well maintenance are included.

It's the law. Well Drilling Regulations, under the Water Resources Act and the Sanitation Regulations under the Health and Community Services Act, set out your obligations as a well owner in Newfoundland and Labrador.

