

# WELL COMPONENTS: YOUR PITLESS ADAPTER

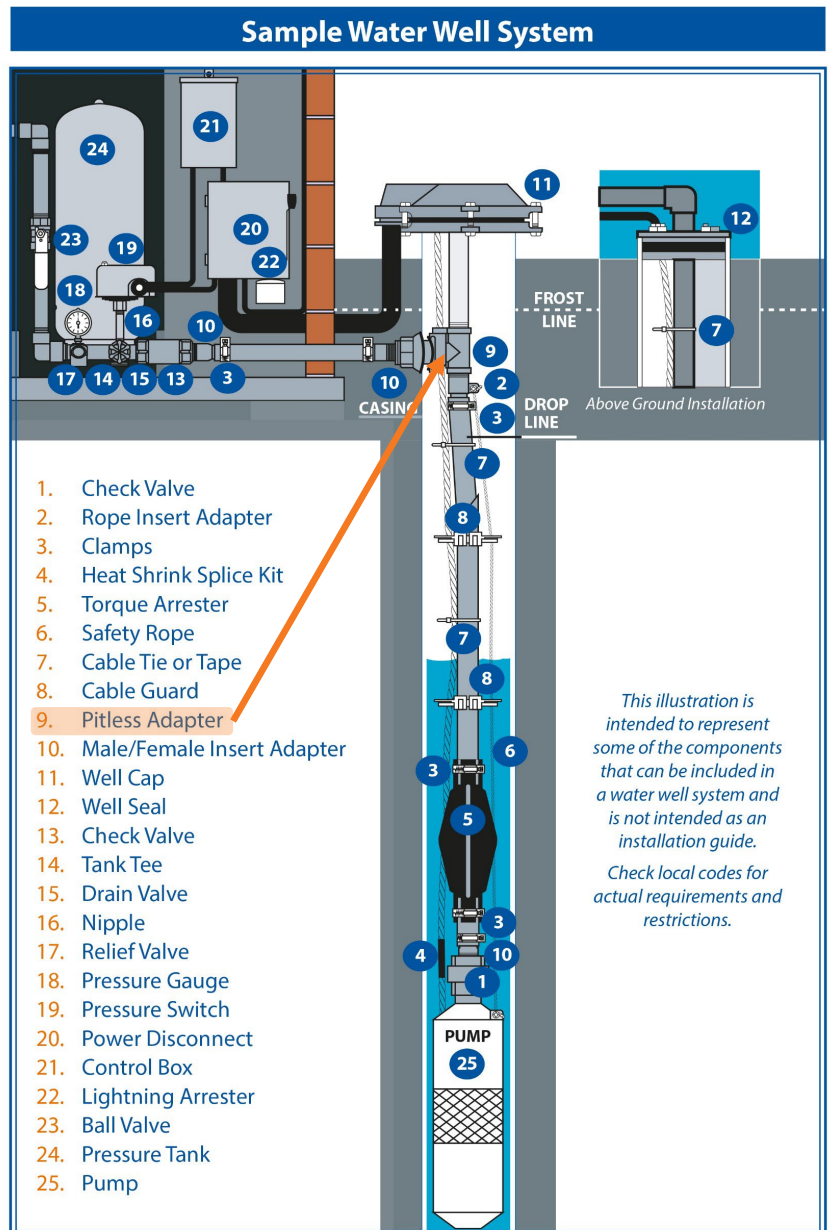
A pitless adapter is attached to your well casing to provide a sanitary and frost-proof seal between the casing and the water line running to your home. This device protects the water from freezing and permits convenient access to the well and well components without having to dig around the well.

The adapter is connected to the well casing below the frost line, which is the depth at which the ground does not freeze. Water from the well is diverted horizontally at the adapter to prevent it from freezing.

In the past, a well pit was the most common way to gain access to well pipe connections below the freeze line. But well pits are generally unsanitary, allowing drainage into the well from surface and near-surface water sources that could be contaminated.

Pitless well construction sharply reduces the potential for contaminated water to enter your well. A pitless adapter also costs much less to install than a well pit.

There are three basic types of pitless equipment for your well: units, kits, and adapters. All are watertight and frost-proof. Ask your well professional to use only an adapter that has been tested to meet industry standards. PAS-97(04) is an industry standard for Pitless Adapters. Here is a listing of [equipment that meets this standard](#).



## Protecting Your Drinking Water

The pitless adapter is one of three parts that make up your wellhead. The wellhead consists of the pitless adapter, the well casing and the well cap. The wellhead is your first line of defense to prevent pollutants from penetrating your drinking water system.

Inspect your wellhead regularly to make sure it is in good condition. Take care when working or mowing around the wellhead, which is easy to damage with heavy equipment. Don't pile snow, leaves or other materials around the wellhead, where they potentially can carry pollutants into the system.

Finally, hire a licensed well contractor to perform any new well construction or modification, or to close an old well. A professional can ensure that the pitless adapter, well casing, and well cap are sanitary and secure. For a list of licensed well contractors in your area, use our [interactive map on our website](#). If you need help locating a licensed well contractor, contact the wellcare® Hotline at 1-888-395-1033.

## For More Information on Pitless Adapters

Contact your licensed well contractor, local health department, state environmental agency, or the wellcare® Hotline. The Water Systems Council's *Water Systems Handbook* provides technical information on well maintenance and service.



## Information to help maintain and protect your water well system:

wellcare® is a program of the Water Systems Council (WSC). WSC is the only national organization solely focused on protecting the health and water supply of an estimated 23 million households nationwide who depend on private wells (according to the U.S. EPA).

This publication is one of more than 100 wellcare® information sheets available FREE at [www.watersystemscouncil.org](http://www.watersystemscouncil.org).

Well owners and others with questions about wells and well water can contact the wellcare® Hotline at 1-888-395-1033 or visit [www.wellcarehotline.org](http://www.wellcarehotline.org) to fill out a contact form or chat with us live!

## JOIN THE WELLCARE® WELL OWNERS NETWORK!

By joining the FREE wellcare® Well Owners Network, you will receive regular information on how to maintain your well and protect your well water.

Contact us at 1-888-395-1033 or visit [www.wellcarehotline.org](http://www.wellcarehotline.org) to join!