

WELL COMPONENTS: YOUR WELL CAP

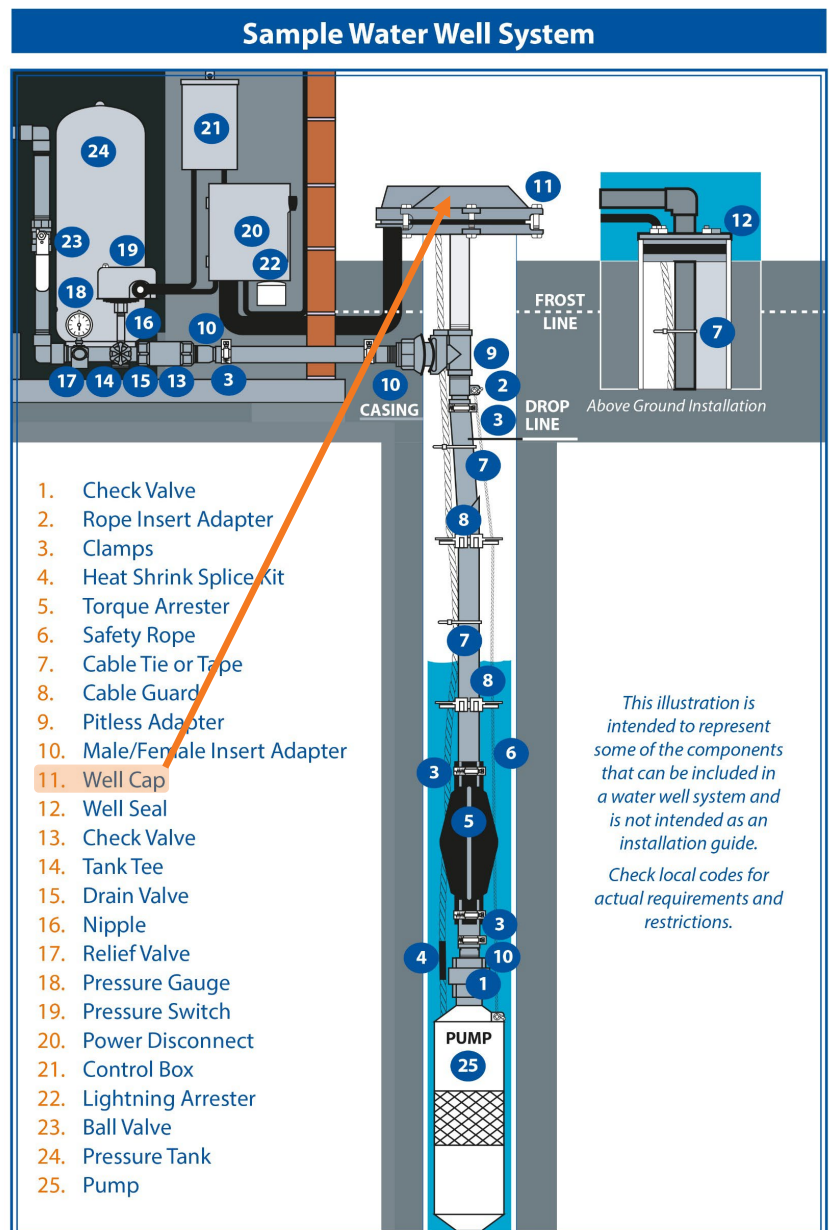
The well cap seals the upper end of your well to prevent contaminants from entering the well. The watertight well cap covers and encloses the top of your well casing, while the top of the cap can be removed to service the well.

The well cap protects the exposed portion of the well casing, forms a protective cover from the elements and bars the entry of vermin or contaminants. It also should be tamper resistant.

Well caps are usually made of aluminum or a thermoplastic, and include a vented screen so that the pressure difference between the inside and outside of the well casing is equalized when water is pumped from the well.

The well casing and well cap should extend at least 12 inches above the ground. If your well is near a river or stream, it should extend at least higher than historic flood levels to prevent overflows from contaminating your drinking water.

A variety of high quality, watertight well caps are approved by the industry. Ask your water well professional to use only a well cap that meets industry standards. PAS-97(4) is an industry standard for well caps. Here is a listing of [equipment that meets this standard](#).



Protecting Your Well Cap

The well cap is your first line of defense to prevent pollutants from penetrating your drinking water system. Inspect your well cap 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 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 Well Caps

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.

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 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 to join!