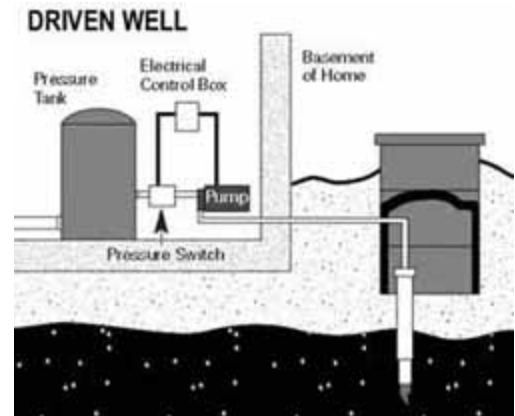


Driven Wells

Like dug wells, driven wells pull water from the water-saturated zone above the bedrock. Driven wells can be deeper than dug wells. They are typically 30 to 50 feet deep and are usually located in areas with thick sand and gravel deposits where the ground water table is within 15 feet of the ground's surface. In the proper geologic setting, driven wells can be easy and relatively inexpensive to install.

Although deeper than dug wells, driven wells are still relatively shallow and have a moderate-to-high risk of contamination from nearby land activities.



- [See our chart of activities that may contaminate a drinking water well.](#)

Driven Well Construction Features

- Assembled lengths of two inches to three inches diameter metal pipes are driven into the ground. A screened "well point" located at the end of the pipe helps drive the pipe through the sand and gravel. The screen allows water to enter the well and filters out sediment.
- The pump for the well is in one of two places: on top of the well or in the house. An access pit is usually dug around the well down to the frost line and a water discharge pipe to the house is joined to the well pipe with a fitting.
- The well and pit are capped with the same kind of large-diameter concrete tile used for a dug well. The access pit may be cased with pre-cast concrete.

To minimize this risk, the well cover should be a tight-fitting concrete curb and cap with no cracks and should sit about a foot above the ground. Slope the ground away from the well so that surface water will not pond around the well. If there's a pit above the well, either to hold the pump or to access the fitting, you may also be able to pour a grout sealant along the outside of the well pipe. Protecting the water quality requires that you maintain proper well construction and monitor your activities around the well. It is also important to follow the same land use precautions around the driven well as described under dug wells.

Other types of wells:

- [Drilled](#)
- [Dug](#)

The information contained on this page, as well as the above graphic was provided by The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management from their document: [Health Drinking Water for Rhode Islanders: Private Drinking Water Wells](#) (644KB PDF FILE, 4 pgs) ([ALL ABOUT PDF FILES](#)) [EXIT Disclaimer](#)