



## COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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**GREG PLUCKER,**  
DIRECTOR

## Environmental Health Division Water Storage Guidelines

Current Siskiyou County policy allows parcel development based on a water supply producing one gallon per minute. The Public Health Department requires storage for production rates from one to two and one half gallons per minute. The following tips are to assist you in designing a storage system to meet your needs.

- Determine how much water your family needs. A conservative estimate is 150 gallons per bedroom per day for household use. Then determine your irrigation, gardening and landscaping needs. Add these figures together and multiply by two for a rough estimate of how much water storage you need.
- If you are not familiar with pumps, plumbing concepts, etcetera, you should consult with, or hire a reputable licensed pump contractor.
- A sealed, leak proof storage tank is recommended. While concrete septic tanks can be sealed so as to provide protection from surface or shallow groundwater infiltration, we discourage the use of these type of tanks.
- It is suggested that an above ground storage tank be used. While freeze protection would be necessary for supply lines in conjunction with an above ground tank, visual inspection of the system integrity is enhanced.
- Consider gravity or a pressure tank to obtain adequate water pressure at the dwelling.
- There are pros and cons to both poly and steel tanks. Discuss them with the sales representative and choose the one that best meets the needs of your particular site and situation.
- Consider production rate, pump size, and head loss when choosing a pipe size; consider the head pressure when choosing pipe strength.
- Water well submersible pumps are water cooled. Your well pump should be protected from overheating by means of a cut-off switch in the event your well runs dry.

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