

At-Grade Environmental Well Construction Requirements

An at-grade environmental well can be installed under certain conditions in Minnesota. Construction must be in accordance with the at-grade requirements in Minnesota Statutes, section 1031.205, subdivision 5 and Minnesota Rules, part 4725.6850.

- An at-grade environmental well may be installed only where termination of the casing 12 inches above grade will pose a safety hazard to vehicular traffic (only on a roadway, sidewalk, driveway, or a parking area), and where a satisfactory alternative location for above-grade installation does not exist.
- An at-grade well casing must terminate no lower than the surrounding ground level. The well must be contained in an approved protective manhole or vault, and installed in a concrete pad at least 4 inches thick and 4 feet square or 4 feet in diameter. The manhole cover must be no less than 2 inches above the surrounding grade. The concrete pad must be sloped to divert surface water and spills away from the well.
- The manhole cover or vault must meet **AASHTO Standards H20-44 and M306-04**, must have a watertight, impervious compression O-ring or gasket, and must be labelled with the words “environmental well” or “monitoring well.”
- An at-grade environmental well casing must be secured with a locking cap and the manhole cover must be secured with a lock or tamper-resistant bolts.
- The location of the well, identified by unique well number, must be marked on a scaled map with angles and directions from surveyed property corners, a permanent benchmark, or the corners of a permanent structure.

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