

**WATER WELL  
(CODE 642)**

**DESCRIPTION**

A hole drilled, dug, driven, bored, jetted or otherwise constructed to an aquifer.

**PURPOSE**

To improve or increase the quantity of water for livestock in order to achieve erosion control and water quality benefits.

**CONDITION**

Apply this practice on agricultural land where the underground supply of water is sufficient in quantity and quality for livestock to achieve erosion control and water quality benefits.

**POLICIES**

1. A minimum of ***fifteen (15)*** animal units (AU) must regularly use or occupy the area being addressed, cost-share funds will be based on applicable flat rates and project limits. Operations with ***one (1) to less than fifteen (15)*** animal units (AU) may be eligible based on the animal unit pro-rated cost-eligibility formulas. (SECTION III, *Water Quality Project Application Instructions*, #44B).
2. The practice *must* be used in conjunction with a Watering Facility (Code 614) when planning a system for grazing land or stream protection.
3. Cost-sharing ***is authorized*** for the following:
  - a. The well permit for a MACS trough or tank.
  - b. The construction or deepening of wells to provide water for troughs or tanks.
  - c. Well pipe casing and pipelines associated with the installation of the trough or tank.
  - d. Permanent Fencing (Code 382) to protect water quality and/or the water body banks and beds from damage by domestic livestock. This should be listed as a separate BMP on the Water Quality Project form.
4. Cost-sharing ***is not authorized*** for the following:
  - a. Pipes installed in wells (other than casing), pumps, pumping equipment, and dry wells.
  - b. Electrical components or solar panels.
  - c. An installation which is primarily for recreation, wildlife, dry lot feeding, corrals, or barns.

- d. An installation which would make it possible to graze crop residues, field borders, or temporary or supplemental pasture crops.
  - e. An installation on land where the primary use is not for grazing purposes.
  - f. Providing water for the farm or ranch headquarters.
  - g. Ram pumps and their delivery systems.
  - h. Portable troughs for multiple paddocks.
5. Wells must be provided with pumping equipment (except for artesian wells) and adequate storage facilities.
6. If the applicant is certain to increase her or his animal capacity within the next six months, *and* if the applicant will document that fact in writing to the Department's satisfaction, cost-share may be approved based on the total new animal capacity on the farm. The SCD must document the animal capacity increase on the Certificate of Imminent Start-up or Expansion of a Poultry-Growing Operation form or Certificate of Imminent Start-up or Expansion of a Livestock Operation form (SECTION III, #19 or #20) and submit this form with the MACS Water Quality Project form. The department will not process the MACS Claim for Payment until the SCD certifies in writing that the expansion has occurred *and* that the additional or new animals have been placed on the farm.
7. NRCS Standards and Specifications for Water Well (Code 642) shall be followed when applying this practice.
8. This practice must be properly maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years. The applicant agrees to provide all equipment, labor, and materials needed to meet this requirement.
9. Wells must be constructed in accordance with the required authorization from Maryland Department of the Environment under COMAR 26.04.04.
10. The applicant and the farm's Nutrient Management Plan must be in compliance with Maryland's Nutrient Management regulations (COMAR 15.20.08) at the time of Application. No Applications will be approved without a Nutrient Management Plan Certification Form submitted with the Application (SECTION III, #30).

## **COST-SHARE RATE**

The State cost-share payment will not exceed 87.5% of the total eligible cost, not to exceed \$150,000 per project.

## ATTACHMENTS

***Applicant(s) with an outstanding Unsatisfactory On-Farm Status Review of BMP Maintenance and Use of previous project(s) may be ineligible for MACS Cost-Share funding. When a previous project expires with outstanding unsatisfactory status, the applicant is ineligible for any future MACS funding.***

*The following items are needed:*

1. A copy of a recorded deed(s) for the parcel(s) where the BMP is located. If the current, appropriate deed is already on file in the MACS Office, then record both the agreement number of the file where the deed is kept and the liber/folio numbers in the General Comments section of the application.
2. A copy of the Real Property Data Search page from the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation's website ([www.dat.maryland.gov](http://www.dat.maryland.gov)) indicating the Maryland Property View Account ID Number and owner information.
3. An aerial photograph indicating the property lines as well as all existing and proposed BMPs. For sediment control practices, also indicate drainage area and direction of flow.
4. A plan view sketch of the area indicating the location of the proposed BMP and graphically demonstrating the layout and details of the project.
5. A copy of MDE Well Permit and Well Completion Report with Claim for Payment.
6. Certificate of Imminent Start-up or Expansion of a Livestock Operation form (SECTION III, #19) if applicable.
7. Nutrient Management Plan Certification Form shall be submitted with the Application (SECTION III, #30).