

# Nonpressure Storage Vessels

A fact sheet for drillers and pump installers

IS A NONPRESSURE STORAGE VESSEL COMPLIANT WITH ch. NR 812 Wis. Adm. Code?  
Please follow the checklist on the back of this page.



## SOME IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT NONPRESSURE STORAGE VESSELS (NPSV):

### Regulations:

- **Regulations** - NR 812.09(4)(v), Wisconsin Administrative Code requires prior written approval from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for use of any above ground (or partially buried) potable nonpressure storage vessel (NPSV). An approval is required whether the vessel is currently installed and in use or whether it is proposed and not yet in use. Refer to NR 812.33(2), Wisconsin Administrative Code for NPSV requirements. This check list is based on the requirements in this section.
- **How to Apply** - Requests for approval shall be in writing on the NPSV application form provided by DNR and shall include the following check list with all the critical features met. A licensed well driller or pump installer can assist with an inspection and the application process. If the NPSV is a new installation, the vessel should be disinfected, flushed and then sampled.
- **Application Requirements:**
  - Completed application form, signed and dated.
  - Coliform bacteria-negative test result from a sample collected from plumbing distribution pipe within the last 6 months.
  - Water system map with all parts of the system labeled, identifying distances to possible contaminant sources (see example diagram).
  - NR 812 Compliance Inspection Report signed by licensed well driller or pump installer.
  - Submit the application materials to your local DNR Private Water Supply Specialist. DNR will review the application for completeness and issue a decision within 65 business days after receipt of a complete application.

### PLEASE NOTE:

This fact sheet and flow chart do not replace or supersede specific code language for nonpressure storage vessels, which is found in ss. 812.10(4)(v), and 812.42(2) Wis. Adm. Code

*This document is intended solely as guidance and does not contain any mandatory requirements except where requirements found in statute or administrative rule are referenced. Any regulatory decisions made by the Department of Natural Resources in any matter addressed by this guidance will be made by applying the governing statutes and administrative rules to the relevant facts.*

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## Non-Pressure Storage Vessel Critical Features Checklist:

- Vessel is maintained in a sanitary condition.
- Cover is large enough to provide access for regular cleaning, inspection and maintenance (recommend 20" in diameter or square).
- Cover is sealed well enough to prevent water, vermin and insects from entry.
- Vessel has an overflow pipe at least 8' long that discharges downward outside of vessel at an elevation at least 12" above ground grade. The pipe has an elbow end facing downwards with a screen clamped over the end. The pipe discharges to a hard or non-erodible surface. See the application for additional information.
- Buried inflow pipe is maintained under a continuous positive pressure head which is greater than the ground surface elevation, as proven through continuous flow to the NPSV (examples of this are a spring box with a continuous water level above the inflow pipe, or well with jack pump with a foot check valve).
- All joints where pipes enter or exit the vessel are sealed to prevent entry from insects or other vermin.
- Vessel is leak free (no major dents or folds), made of stainless steel, poured concrete, fiberglass or high-grade plastic (NSF 61certified preferred, otherwise obtain information from the supplier that plastic tank is usable for potable water).
- Vessel, if not new, was used for storage of potable water or liquid food ingredients.
- Vessel was cleaned and/or disinfected prior to use and after any major cleaning or maintenance work.

**If your NPSV does not meet the above check list, it should be brought into compliance prior to submitting an application for approval.**

