



Waterwell and Groundwater Monitoring Newsletter

August 2014

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Canadian Pipe & Pump Supply is an industry leader engaged in the manufacturing and distribution of pipe product used in waterwell and groundwater monitoring applications. In addition, we supply pumps and accessories used in conjunction with our pipe. We firmly believe in helping our customers grow their businesses. Our skilled team of industry experts can help select the proper product for your application or help to design a custom solution.

We have four locations across Ontario to serve your needs. Please visit us at one of our branches located in Toronto, Orillia, Ottawa or Tillsonburg.

Impact of Physical Environment on Bacterial Problems

Last month we explored primary sources of bacteria in wells. However if you obtain repeated samples that test positive for coliform/E. coli or excessive bacteria after chemical treatments, the cause might be due to physical problems that will require other approaches. When a bacterial related issue such as a strong odour or slime is present at a sampling point, it is all too often assumed that the issue has originated in the well.

When you have a problem at a sampling point that is inside the building, conduct additional tests nearby the well or from within the well to track down the location of the bacterial issue. It is a Best Practice for contractors to install a sampling point just inside the building to compare differences in water quality between the well and internal plumbing, to aid in the elimination of issues that might arise from the building's internal piping.

For those instances where you need to check for issues in the piping system:

1. Turn on the water until the pump system engages.
2. Allow the pump to build the water pressure.
3. When the high pressure point is reached, turn off all of the system's water usages.
4. Closely monitor the pressure on the well-side of the pressure tank to see if it drops within a few seconds.
5. If there is a drop in pressure (if there is no water usage in the system):
 - o The buried piping might have a leak and the surrounding soil area could potentially be the cause of bacterial contaminants that can enter the pipe through the leak when the system draws in water.

- If you are dealing with a submersible pump, be sure that you confirm that the check valve is working correctly. If it is, the problem is likely due to a leak in the buried piping system.
- 6. If there is no drop in the pressure but the problems persist, then it is likely that the buried piping system is fine and that real issue is a continuous source issue, with the source found:
 - Within the well casing, whose root cause could include: corrosion, faults in the casing or couplings, physical wearing from the pump, etc.
 - Exterior to the well casing, due to likely to grout failure.

If you suspect that you are having a bacterial problem arising from the water system's physical environment, please discuss it with your CP&PS representative today to assist in resolving the issue.



We look forward to your business and partnering with you to help drive your growth in 2014.

Sincerely,

Robert Martini
Vice-President General Manager