

Where Can I Drill?
How Much Can I Pump?

See Section 7 of the District Rules for well spacing and production requirements. Also, see Section 6 of the District Rules for maximum allowable production. Generally, the farther the proposed well is from property lines and existing wells the greater the allowable production. However, total production is limited to 5 gallons per minute per contiguous acre and no more than 4 ac-ft per acre per year.

Spacing of wells from property lines

Distance (ft)	Max. Production (gpm)
300-374	265
375-449	390
450-599	560
600-659	1,000
>660	>1,000

Spacing of wells from existing wells

Distance (ft)	Max. Production (gpm)
300	125
600	265
750	390
900	560
1,200	1,000
>1,320	>1,000

Are There any Exceptions?

Periodically, special circumstances arise regarding the spacing and production of permitted wells. These circumstances require that the applicant file for an exception to the rules. The Board has the power to grant exceptions to the rules. There is a process for requesting an exception that is outlined in Section 7 of the rules. Be aware that an exception may be granted only when there is clear and convincing evidence for doing so. The District staff will assist during this process and answer any questions, but remember, only the Board may grant an exception.

How Do I Know When My Permit is Approved?

No permit is final until the Board officially acts on it at a regular meeting. You will be notified of the Board’s consideration of your permit as described in Rule 8.5. A permit hearing is designed to protect the due process rights of applicants and anyone who may be affected if a permit is granted.

WATER CONSERVATION—Making the most efficient use of our precious water resources.

*Water Well
 Permit
 Requirements*



**South Plains Underground
 Water Conservation District**

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Why Do I Need a Well Permit?

District rules require that you apply for a well permit when:

- 1) constructing a new well that produces more than 25,000 gallons per day (17.4 gpm), and
- 2) changing the operation of a well previously exempt from permitting. Permitting wells is one way that the District protects your private property rights and conserves water. Permitting rules currently address production limits based on tract size, as well as spacing from property lines and existing wells.

What is the Process?

A check list of certain items is included within this brochure and provides greater detail of the permitting process. However, a short summary is shown below:

- Fill out permit application
- Submit deposit (when drilling new wells only)
- Complete the well construction
- Return permit and any other supporting documents to District office within 4 months of application
- The Board will hold a hearing on the application before considering it for final approval.

Submitting a Well Permit Application

How long will it take to complete the well permit application? It should not take long, provided that you have the required information. You must submit the following:

- \$500 deposit
- Block and section on which proposed well will be drilled
- Location and production of existing wells
- Name of driller (driller is required to be registered and in good standing with District)
- Notarized Power of Attorney (if application is issued to person other than landowner)
- Location of proposed well (300' tape available for accurate measurements)
- Distance of proposed well from existing wells
- Estimated production of proposed well



What About my Deposit?

Deposits are required when constructing a new well. A deposit is not required when changing the operation of a previously exempt well. The deposit is fully refundable provided that you follow the rules. The requirements for permit deposit refund are:

- Complete permit application BEFORE drilling begins
- Complete the work and return PERMIT within 4 months
- Make sure well is properly constructed, and equipped with a PUMP or an APPROVED CAP.
- Submit State of Texas well report within 4 months
- Are you drilling beneath the Ogallala? A water sample must be submitted to the office (Rule 10.2(c))

Your Site will be Inspected

The District verifies the location and completion of all permitted wells. Do not be alarmed if you see a District employee at your well site. Generally, an inspection only takes a small amount of time, and is performed only after the permit and well report are returned.