



### What is a Class V Injection Well?

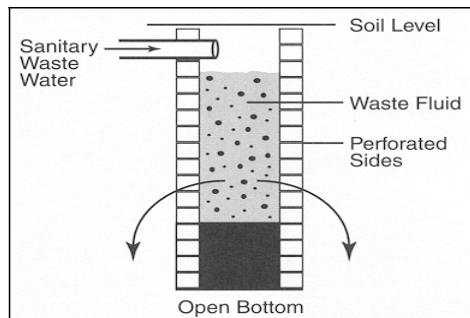
Class V injection wells are typically shallow disposal systems that are used to place a variety of fluids below the land surface. Examples of Class V injection wells include: motor vehicle waste disposal wells, large capacity cesspools, storm water drainage wells, aquifer remediation wells, and large capacity septic systems.

### Why are Class V Injection Wells a Concern?

Class V wells are a concern because they may pose a risk to underground sources of drinking water. The risk a Class V well may present depends on factors such as: the type of fluid(s) it receives, its location in relation to water supply sources, its construction, maintenance, and local geology.

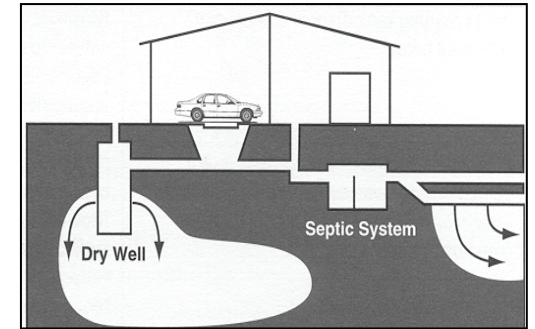
**What Regulations Apply to Class V Injection Wells?** In 1999, the US EPA finalized the *Underground Injection Control Regulations for Class V Injection Wells*, known as the *Class V*

*Rule, Phase 1.* The Class V Rule establishes minimum federal standards for two types of Class V wells that are of concern in Wellhead Protection Areas: **large-capacity cesspools** and **motor vehicle waste disposal wells**. These types of wells are also known as shallow disposal systems. The Class V Rule also established an inventory and permitting process for **large capacity septic systems**. Details about these Class V wells and the regulations that apply to them are shown below:



### Large Capacity Cesspools

*Definition:* Typically a drywell with an open bottom and/or perforated sides that receives untreated sanitary waste. A large-capacity cesspool is any residential cesspool used by multiple dwellings, community or regional establishments, or non-residential cesspools that have the capacity to serve 20 or more people. (Note: These have not been permitted in Minnesota for many years.)



### Motor Vehicle Waste Disposal Wells

*Definition:* Shallow waste disposal systems (dry-well, cesspool, septic system, French drain, etc.) that receive or have received fluids from vehicular repair or maintenance activities, such as auto body or automotive repair, car dealerships, car washes or other vehicular repair or maintenance work.

*Protective Requirements:*

- New motor vehicle waste disposal wells are banned after 2000
- Existing motor vehicle waste disposal wells are banned in approved Wellhead Protection Areas
- US EPA may allow owners and operators to seek a waiver from the ban and obtain a permit
- Owners and operators must notify the US EPA - UIC Program Director 30 days prior to closing a motor vehicle waste disposal well



[http://water.epa.gov/type/groundwater/uic/class5/comply\\_minrequirements.cfm](http://water.epa.gov/type/groundwater/uic/class5/comply_minrequirements.cfm)

**OPTIONS:**

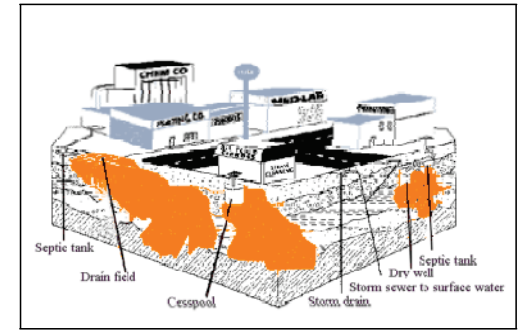
- Contact local unit of government within WHP Area for WHP & EPA information
- Request waiver and obtain permit in non-sensitive groundwater areas
- Abandon per EPA regulations in approved Wellhead Protection Areas
- Connect to municipal sewer
- Route waste to approved holding tank and dispose of properly, off-site
- Convert to “dry shop”
- Provide regular maintenance of allowed and/or waived shallow disposal wells.

**Additional Information**

For more information on Class V injection wells, visit the following websites:

[http://water.epa.gov/type/groundwater/uic/class5/upload/2007\\_12\\_12\\_uic\\_class5\\_guide\\_uic-class5\\_small\\_ent\\_compl.pdf](http://water.epa.gov/type/groundwater/uic/class5/upload/2007_12_12_uic_class5_guide_uic-class5_small_ent_compl.pdf)

[http://water.epa.gov/type/groundwater/uic/class5/comply\\_minrequirements.cfm](http://water.epa.gov/type/groundwater/uic/class5/comply_minrequirements.cfm)



**Large Capacity On-Site Septic Systems**

*Definition:* Approved or permitted on-site sewage treatment system serving 20 or more people.

*Inventory Requirements:*

- In addition to the above-referenced concerns in drinking water protection areas, the US EPA is required to inventory large-capacity septic systems. If properly located, operated and maintained, these systems are not considered a problem or concern in source water protection areas and are not banned.

**What Options Are Available To Owners Of Shallow Disposal Wells**

**OBLIGATIONS:**

- Notify US EPA Region 5 UIC Program Director of shallow disposal well - Reporting Forms:

**WHAT IS A CLASS V INJECTION WELL?**

**HOW CAN THESE WELLS ENDANGER YOUR DRINKING WATER?**

City Contact Info