

# Domestic Water Well Program



## ***What is the Domestic Water Well Program?***

The *Domestic Water Well Program* is an affordable and convenient way for residential property owners to have access to clean, safe drinking water in their homes where it might not otherwise be possible.

The program is designed for drilling a new groundwater well, installation of a surface water well, or improvements to an existing drilled groundwater well and surface water well for domestic use.

The work must be done by a registered service provider. This program is not available for any components related to the hauling of bulk water.

## ***Application and Approval Process***

### ***Step 1 – Apply***

Before you apply, your property taxes must be paid and up-to-date. Meet the Property Assessment and Taxation branch staff to discuss project and program details and fill out an application. You can bring in your project proposal at this time or discuss options on how to get a quote and proposal from a Registered Service Provider. All project requests are managed on a 'first-come, first-served' basis.

### ***Step 2 – Approval***

Your project costs will be reviewed to ensure they fall within the limit of 25% of your assessed property value (less the balance of any other Local Improvement Charges) up to a maximum of \$50,000. Note that project costs must be greater than \$1000.

Your project details will be reviewed to ensure that the proposed water system meets all safety standards and conditions for the delivery of potable water.

### ***Step 3 – Client Agreement***

Following project approval, you must agree to the terms of payment and other conditions prior to the project construction. You can choose to amortize over 5, 10 or 15 years at the Bank of Canada Rate on the day of signing the agreement. Note: As the property owner(s), you have sole financial responsibility, regardless of project outcome.

### ***Step 4 – Completion***

Once the project work is complete, the Registered Service Provider will submit invoices to the Yukon government. To demonstrate that the work has been completed, the Registered Service Provider will submit the required documents to the Domestic Water Well Program. Payment will be made after these conditions are met and you sign off on the final product as the property owner. You will then see the Local Improvement Charge on the following year's tax notice.

## **Financing**

Financing under this program is on a 100% cost-recovery basis. To protect Yukon taxpayer investments under the program, the Yukon government has set a ceiling on the amount of financing available for individual projects.

Financing is limited to 25% of the assessed value (less the balance of any other local improvement charges) of the property up to a maximum of \$50,000. All Yukon properties, including properties within municipal boundaries are reassessed every two years by the Yukon government for property taxation purposes, and assessed values may differ from private real-estate market values.

When the project is completed, property owners must make payments on the total cost borrowed over a period of 5, 10 or 15 years through a Local Improvement Charge that is attached to the annual property tax notice. The local improvement charge may be paid out at any time with no penalty. No deferrals are permitted.

An interest rate (Bank of Canada rate at the time of signing agreement) is applied to the final cost of construction. The annual charge is set by regulation.

The Yukon government finances the *Domestic Water Well Program* on a 100% cost-recovery basis. This means that all project costs, including interest are recoverable from the property.

## **Eligibility**

The *Domestic Water Well Program* is available to:

1. property owners whose rural residential properties are within the Yukon government's property taxation authority; and
2. property owners whose residential properties are located within the boundary of a participating municipality and are not served or able to be served by a municipal water system.  
(To find out if the program is available in your municipality, please contact the Property Assessment and Taxation branch.)

## **Yukon Government Contributions**

The Property Assessment and Taxation branch within the department of Community Services administers the program on behalf of the Government of Yukon.

On receipt of an individual application from an eligible property owner, program staff will work to provide the property owner with the information and assistance they need to make informed decisions on the proposed project.

For definitions and further details, see "Program Description" at [www.community.gov.yk.ca/pdf/Domestic Water Well Program Guidelines 2015.pdf](http://www.community.gov.yk.ca/pdf/Domestic_Water_Well_Program_Guidelines_2015.pdf).

**For more information call, write or visit:**

### **Property Assessment and Taxation**

Department of Community Services

Tel: (867) 667-5268

Toll-free 1-800-661-0408 ext. 5268

Email: [assessment.taxation@gov.yk.ca](mailto:assessment.taxation@gov.yk.ca)

### **Mail**

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