



City of Malibu

23825 Stuart Ranch Road · Malibu, California · 90265-4861
Phone (310) 456-2489 · Fax (310) 456-3356 · www.malibucity.org

Water Well Policy

The City requires that property owners demonstrate the minimum requirements of this Water Well Policy with regards to the property's private onsite well for domestic water supply, a dewatering well and/or a monitoring well. The Malibu Municipal Code (MMC), Malibu Local Coastal Plan/Local Implementation Plan (LCP/LIP), Local Agency Management Program for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (LAMP), and the California Well Standards, Bulletin 74-90 includes setback distances from the Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) to the proposed well to ensure the safety of the drinking water supply, public health, and the environment.

A Conditional Use Permit application for a private, onsite well for domestic water supply, dewatering well and/or monitoring wells shall meet the following requirements:

1. A feasibility level approval for the proposed private well. To satisfy this requirement, a Work Plan document approved by the County of Los Angeles, Environmental Health, Drinking Water Program shall be submitted.

If the well is a dewatering well, a permit issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board may be required. Contact the City's Public Works Department for permit inquiries.

2. California Well Standards, Bulletin 74-90, recommends a minimum setback distance of 150 feet between water supply wells and potential sources of contamination "where a significant layer of unsaturated, unconsolidated sediment less permeable than sand is encountered between ground surface and groundwater." The Project Geotechnical Consultant shall provide an evaluation regarding the potential contamination of existing and proposed water wells by the proposed OWTS within the project vicinity. The Project Geotechnical Consultant should consider, at a minimum, all wells within a 250-foot radius of the proposed OWTS but should increase the radius, as appropriate, based on the Consultant's judgment.
3. A plot plan showing all OWTS (including septic components) within a 250-foot radius of the proposed well.
4. Water supply and dewatering wells must meet minimum setback requirements of the MMC, LCP/LIP, and LAMP. Show the following required setback radii on the proposed test well plan:
 - a. 50 feet for building sewer and septic tank (MMC Table 15.42.030 (E))
 - b. 150 feet for dispersal areas (i.e., seepage pits, leach fields, leach lines) (MMC Table 15.42.030 (E), Malibu LCP/LIP Chapter 18.5.M) and septic tanks (Malibu LCP/LIP Chapter 18.5.M)