



The City of Greeley passed an amended ordinance on September 17, 2024, that ensures city residents have safe and reliable drinking water and maintains the Poudre River stream classification. Drilling a well or using any existing well for domestic purposes, such as human consumption or other household or indoor uses, is now a violation. The ordinance applies to all wells within city limits.

Why are wells being restricted?

Nitrates are common in domestic wells due to fertilizers, liquid waste, and manure that seeps into the groundwater. Nitrates can also enter water through surface runoff or leakage from septic systems, landfills, fertilized soil, and urban drainage. Consuming nitrates can rob your blood of oxygen and is known to cause "blue baby syndrome" in infants less than 6 months old. It can cause headaches, stomach cramps and increase heart rate. It has also been linked to several types of cancer.

The city's treated drinking water falls within the national drinking water standard of 10 milligrams of nitrates per liter. We take pride in our safe and reliable supply of great-tasting drinking water.

Ordinance No. 34: 20-126

You are being notified that you may have a groundwater well being used for domestic or agricultural use on your property. Residents with an existing domestic well must disconnect it within 90 days of being notified by the city. Residents then have 90 days to connect to Greeley's drinking water system.

What happens now?

- If you do not have a Greeley water service tap, you must request water service from the city. Your plant investment fee and raw water requirements will be waived as a value-added supplement. You will still be responsible for your monthly consumptive use fee.
- You must abandon or remove the connection to any existing well used for domestic drinking water within 90 days of receiving this notice. Wells only used for agriculture and irrigation do not have to be abandoned. You can learn more about abandoning a well at [Well Abandonment Rules](#).
- You can continue using any existing well being used for agricultural or irrigation purposes if you register with the city within 90 days of receiving this notice. However, it is now a violation to drill a new well for agricultural purposes. Please follow the instructions in Section 20-126 (b) of the city ordinance.

How to register your domestic or agricultural well and other questions.

- You can find the Well Registration Form and a list of Frequently Asked Questions at greeleygov.com/water-quality. Please contact Joe Kunovic at **970-350-9363** or Joseph.Kunovic@greeleygov.com with questions.

Sincerely,

Sean Chambers,
Director of Water and Sewer