



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: August 24th, 2022

Contact: Jessica Shea
Phone: 218-824-1010

Protecting Groundwater Grants for Local Residents

Crow Wing County received over \$90,000 in grants for local residents to seal unused wells and upgrading septic systems for protecting groundwater.

A well that is not in use or abandoned can be a source of groundwater contamination by providing a potential direct path for surface water runoff, contaminated water, or improperly disposed of waste to reach an uncontaminated groundwater source. Unused larger-diameter wells can also be a safety hazard for children and animals.

The County will provide up to a maximum of \$1,000 in cost-share funds per well. A state-licensed well contractor must conduct the work. Residents are encouraged to contact a licensed well driller to begin the application process.

Proper septic maintenance ensures that groundwater is being protected from human contaminants. "Having properly maintained and functioning septic systems will help protect groundwater in Crow Wing County. We are here to help provide information to landowners on septic system upgrades and financial assistance when available" stated Nicole Erickson, Environmental Services Coordinator.

If you are interested in learning more about funds for upgrading your septic system, contact Region Five Development Commission – Stephanie Barney at (218) 296-5201.

Groundwater protection is identified as a priority in the Crow Wing County Water Plan and Pine River One Watershed, One Plan, and most of the Crow Wing County's residents rely on groundwater for their source of drinking water. Residents can go to [Grants | Crow Wing County, MN - Official Website](#) to read more information on the County's well sealing and septic upgrade grant opportunities.

The Land Services Department is committed to providing excellent customer service while helping our residents make wise decisions that protect Crow Wing County's extraordinary natural resources. Citizens are encouraged to contact the Land Services Office at (218) 824-1010 or landservices@crowwing.us to discuss groundwater protection or other land use related activities.

Our Vision: Being Minnesota's favorite place.

Our Mission: Serve well. Deliver value. Drive results.

Our Values: Be responsible. Treat people right. Build a better future.