Water wells require routine maintenance

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY NEWS

Groundwater is one of our most important resources and is essential to the health and well-being of residents and the environment. We all must do our part to protect this valuable resource, and for well owners, that means making sure wells are in good working order.

As with most things, preventative maintenance is usually less costly than emergency maintenance, and a water well is certainly no exception.

A routine check of your well by a qualified contractor can prolong the life of your well and is the best way to ensure problem-free service and high quality water. This check may include an equipment inspection to assure it is sanitary and meets local code, as well as a test of your water for coliform bacteria and nitrates, and anything else of concern.

The Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD) recommends that well owners:

- Keep hazardous chemicals away from your well.
- Properly store and dispose of hazardous substances.
- Do not put medications or hazardous substances down the drain or toilet.
- Periodically check the well cover or well cap on top of the casing to ensure it is in good shape and securely attached.
- Test the water whenever there is a change in taste, odor, or appearance, or when the system is serviced.
- If you have a well, get a yearly maintenance check.

Contact the health department with any well-related questions, or to inquire about available services at (989) 831-5237 in Montcalm County.