

Utah County Health Department
Regulation Governing The
Determination of Ground Water Table Elevation

Regulation

Groundwater monitoring shall be required where the anticipated maximum groundwater table, including irrigation induced water table, might be expected to rise closer than 6 (six) feet to the elevation of the bottom of the onsite wastewater system, or where alternative wastewater systems may be considered.

1. Observation wells must be constructed and the ground water table shall be monitored for a period of one year. Any deviations from the one year monitoring period will be accepted only when the health department has reliable information as to the time of year that the ground water table is at the maximum ground water elevation.
2. Unusually dry years, climatological information or other environmental factors may require a longer monitoring period. In years when climatological records report river flow or precipitation less than 85% of normal, a second year of monitoring may be required. Under extreme drought conditions or cumulative drought conditions, the board of health may extend the monitoring period as deemed appropriate.
 - A. In areas where reservoir or lake capacity elevations may influence ground water table elevations, site specific monitoring data must be collected when the reservoir or lake is at 100% capacity.
 - a. If after a minimum of three years of monitoring has occurred and the reservoir or lake has not reached 100% capacity, the lot owner may request a waiver to the monitoring requirement, provided that the lot owner agrees to install the proposed system with a maximum depth of 12 (twelve) inches from naturally existing grade to absorption trench bottom. Site conditions must allow shallow installation of the proposed system. All waiver requests must be reviewed and approved, on a lot by lot basis, by the Health Director. If the waiver request is not approved, the monitoring requirements shall continue as per this regulation.
3. Observations and recordings of the observations must receive oversight from the health department. The frequency of the monitoring must be prearranged with the health department.
4. All costs associated with the excavation, construction, placement of the monitoring wells, monitoring of the groundwater elevations and other costs is the responsibility of the person or persons required to conduct the monitoring.
6. Ground water table monitoring may also be required when outside agency reports, such as Utah Geological Surveys, or historical information compiled by the health department, or soil mottling observations, indicate that a potential groundwater problem may exist.