



Best Management Practices For Protecting Ground Water For Dry Cleaners Using Shallow Industrial Waste Disposal Wells (Class V Well BMP Fact Sheet Number 2A)

EPA recognizes that certain industrial waste disposal practices using drainage wells may pose unacceptable risks to Underground Sources of Drinking Water. These operations allow the discharge of various wastes to a drainage system neither designed for nor capable of treating them. Accordingly, BMPs for Industrial Disposal Wells focus on well closure and alternative disposal methods. We have also included BMPs for waste minimization to help facilities reduce waste disposal costs, regardless of the disposal method they use. In addition local, county, and State regulations may prohibit use of these wells. Note: these practices are recommendations only. For more information, contact the person named below.

The BMPs listed below apply to dry cleaners. Fact Sheet Number 2 in this series lists BMPs that are applicable to Industrial Disposal Wells in general (including those used by dry cleaners), particularly for closure and alternative disposal.

Waste Minimization

- Use equipment with built-in distillation units or add such units to existing equipment to extend the life of solvents and reduce still waste volume
- Add carbon adsorption units, refrigeration/condensation units, or azeotropic conditioning for solvent recovery (azeotropic conditioning entails adding a substance to a mixture to facilitate distillation and separation of individual components of the mixture)
- Add prewashing where possible to remove some dust and oils (this increases solvent and filter cartridge life)
- Properly operate distillation units to minimize solvent content of still bottoms
- Heat used filter cartridges in a closed container to vaporize and capture excess solvent
- Open button traps and lint gaskets only long enough to clean
- Inspect and repair gaskets, seals, hoses, and couplings to minimize solvent, vapor, and liquid loss



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