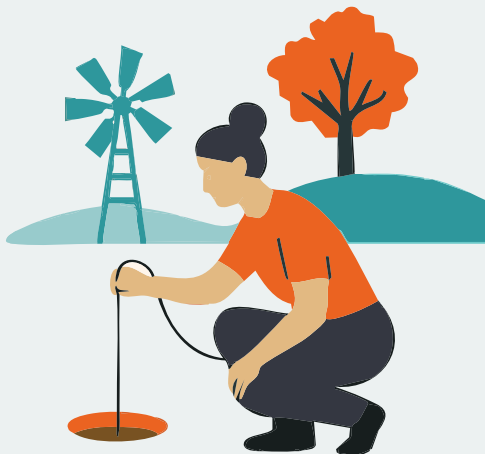


Check it, fix it, protect it

How to keep your bore in good working condition

Regular maintenance of a bore will help it continue to work. Bores and pumps often fail when maintenance is ignored or early warning signs are missed—and fixing a neglected bore can cost as much as drilling a brand new one.



1 Monitor water levels several times a year

- ▶ Check the water level in your bore as many times as you can during the year. Always check after you stop pumping and wait for the water to settle.
- ▶ Make sure you write down the water level each time. This helps you see if the water is going down over time.
- ▶ If the water level is getting lower, call the department for help.
- ▶ Use a fishing line with a small weight on the end to check the water. Lower it slowly until you hear a “plop” when the weight hits the water. Pull the line up and write down the length of the line, that will be your water level. Be careful not to drop anything loose in the bore because it could damage the pump.
- ▶ Check how deep the bore is with your weighted line. If it’s not as deep as before, it might be clogged from silt, sand or other debris. You can call a driller contractor to clean it so you have good water again.



2 Keep detailed records

Keep detailed records of bore construction, usage, and performance to identify issues early.

3 Avoid over-pumping

Do not over-pump the bore by changing the pump setting or pressure head, even for short periods. A pressure gauge should be fitted on the pump side of the gate valve so that normal operating pressure can be maintained during testing.



4 Protect the headworks

Ensure the headwork and surrounds are sealed and well drained to prevent contaminants from entering the gap between the pump column and casing.

5 Service your pump

Service your pump as per the manufacturer's guidelines.

Avoid having electrical components in connection with the casing as this can cause corrosion. If the pump is malfunctioning, the electrical wiring to the pump or inside the pump could be faulty. Corrosion of the pump column can also reduce bore discharge. It may be necessary to have the pump examined by a pump contractor.

6 Have inactive bores checked

Have inactive bores checked by a licensed driller. Water samples collected from un-equipped bores can be unreliable, and a sample should only be taken after pumping for at least 30 minutes.

▶ For more information on an existing bore go to: nrmaps.nt.gov.au/knowyourbore_desktop.html

▶ For more information contact
Water Resources:

Darwin: 08 8999 3632

Katherine: 08 8973 8834

Alice Springs: 08 8951 9215

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watersecurity.nt.gov.au/water-in-the-territory/know-your-bore