

CALCULATE RISK RANK

Step 1:

Sum up the rankings for the categories you completed and divide by the total number of categories ranked. Carry your answer out to one decimal point.

Rank Number Total _____ ÷ No. of categories ranked _____ = Risk Rank _____

Risk Categories

3.6-4.0 = low risk

2.6-3.5 = low to moderate risk

1.6-2.5 = moderate to high risk

1.0-1.5 = high risk

This ranking gives you an idea of how your well or spring management practices as a whole might be affecting your drinking water. Later you will combine this risk ranking with other farmstead management rankings in Worksheet No. 13, "Overall Risk Assessment." This ranking should serve only as a very general guide, not a definitive indicator of contamination. Because it represents an averaging of many individual rankings, it can mask any individual rankings (such as 1's or 2's) that should be of concern (see Step 2.).

Step 2:

Look over your ranking for each category:

- Low-risk practices (4's): ideal; should be your goal despite cost and effort.
- Low-to-moderate risk practices (3's): provide reasonable groundwater protection.
- Moderate-to-high-risk practices (2's): inadequate protection in many circumstances.
- High-risk practices (1's): inadequate; pose a high risk of polluting groundwater.

Any individual rankings of "1" require immediate attention. Some concerns you can take care of right away; others could be a major-or costly-project, requiring planning and prioritizing before you take action. Note the activities that you identified as 1's to be listed later under "High-Risk Activities" in Worksheet No. 13.