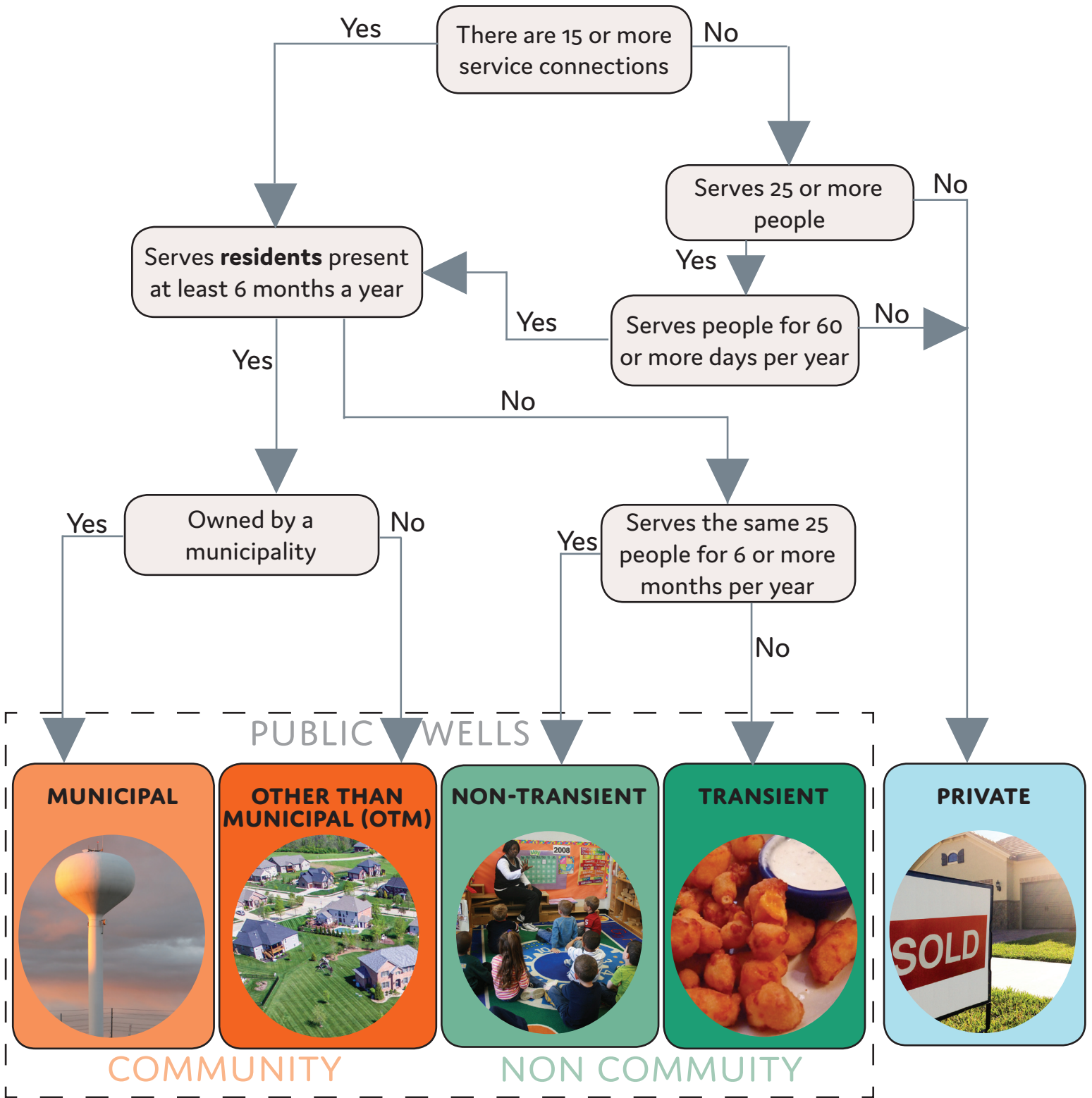


# WHAT TYPE OF WELL?



WI LAND+WATER  
SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

**Christina Anderson**  
christina@wisconsinlandwater.org

For references and more resources, visit: [wisconsinlandwater.org/programs/groundwater-protection](http://wisconsinlandwater.org/programs/groundwater-protection)



	DEFINITION	WELL TYPE	EXAMPLES	DATA AVAILABLE*		WHEN CONTAINMENTS EXCEED STANDARDS?
				NITRATE	BACTERIA	
COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEM	A public water system which serves at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents. Any water system serving 7 or more single family homes, 10 or more mobile homes, 10 or more apartment units, 10 or more duplex living units or 10 or more condominium units shall be considered a community water system unless information is provided by the owner indicating that 25 year-round residents will not be served.	<b>MUNICIPAL</b> Community water system owned by a city, village, county, town, town sanitary district, utility district, public inland lake and rehabilitation district, municipal water district or a federal, state, county or municipal owned institution for congregate care or correction, or a privately owned water utility serving the foregoing.	City of Green Bay, Village of Fall Creek	Quarterly	Quarterly	A public notice is issued. If well is not able to quickly return to safe levels, well must be decommissioned or treatment applied. <b>Nitrate: exceeding 10mg/l</b> <b>Bacteria: any detection</b>
		<b>OTHER THAN MUNICIPAL (OTM)</b> A community water system that is not a municipal water system	Mobile home parks, subdivisions, apartment buildings, condos	Annually	Quarterly or monthly depending on size	If well is not able to quickly return to safe levels, well must be decommissioned or treatment applied. <b>Nitrate: exceeding 10mg/l</b> <b>Bacteria: any detection</b>
NON COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEM	A public water system that is not a community water system. A non-community water system may be either a non-transient non-community water system or a transient non-community water system.	<b>NON-TRANSIENT NON-COMMUNITY</b> A non-community water system that regularly serves at least 25 of the same persons over 6 months per year.	Schools, factories, office buildings, and hospitals which have their own water systems	Annually	Annually, quarterly, or monthly depending on size	If well is not able to quickly return to safe levels, well must be decommissioned or treatment applied. <b>Nitrate: exceeding 10mg/l</b> <b>Bacteria: any detection</b>
		<b>TRANSIENT NON-COMMUNITY</b> Serves at least 25 people at least 60 days of the year but does not regularly serve at least 25 of the same persons over 6 months per year.	Gas station, taverns, restaurants, campgrounds, hotels, churches	Annually	Annually, quarterly, or monthly depending on size	Notice must be posted warning consumers of health risks. <b>Nitrate: exceeding 10mg/l</b> If well is not able to quickly return to safe levels, well must be decommissioned or treatment applied. <b>Nitrate: exceeding 20mg/l</b> <b>Bacteria: any detection</b>
PRIVATE	Any drilled, driven point, dug, bored or jetted well constructed for the purpose of obtaining groundwater for potable use, including wells constructed in special well casing depth areas and non-community wells.	<b>PRIVATE</b> Serves less than 25 people.	Individual homeowners, could also include places that serve less than 25 people and do not work year-round	Private data is not readily available per well. However, UW-Stevens Point has well data available by section.  Well owners are not required to sample their well except: when constructed, following pump work, and often when sold.		Private well owners have no requirements when results exceed standards. Federal standards recommended. Encouraged to sample annually. Home testing kits often available through county or UWStevens Point or private labs. <a href="https://dnr.wi.gov/regulations/labCert/labLists.html">https://dnr.wi.gov/regulations/labCert/labLists.html</a>

\*This is an abridged list of contaminants required for reporting. General requirements may differ slightly based on the size or type of drinking water system.