

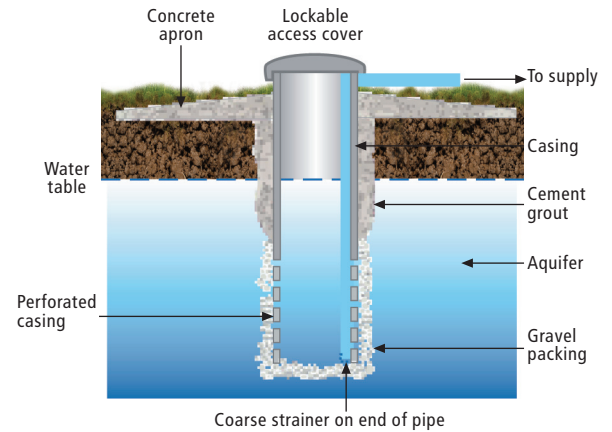
## Something in the water

### What can you do to protect your supply?

Some things like soil type (which affect how long bugs can survive and how quickly they move through the soil into a well or spring) are difficult to change.

The best ways to protect your water supply are:

- Make sure it is kept well maintained, with a well-fitting cover or lid
- Keep animals away from it by fencing them out
- Make sure there is no muck spreading to contaminate the supply happening close by



### What about water treatment?

You can also treat the water once it comes into the home.

- Chemical treatment usually involves using a chlorine containing substance as a disinfectant. These can affect how the water looks and tastes
- If the water doesn't contain too much organic matter (it is not a peaty brown colour like whisky) then ultra-violet (UV) light treatment can kill the harmful bugs and make the water safe to drink

If your water is dark coloured, it is possible to filter it first so UV treatment will work properly.

### Where can I find out more?

#### The Private Water Supplies:

Technical Manual gives technical guidance on all aspects of private water supplies.

[privatewatersupplies.gov.uk](http://privatewatersupplies.gov.uk)

