

High Risk Groundwater Areas



NRD regulations limit well drilling and prohibit new groundwater irrigation transfers in the designated High-Risk Groundwater Area. The area that is affected by this regulation is shown on the High-Risk Groundwater Area map below. Existing wells within the High Risk Groundwater Area may be replaced, but the replacement location is subject to the rules for well spacing listed in this document.

Drilling of new wells must meet the requirements of Rule 5: Chapter 25 -- High Risk Groundwater Areas.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The State of Nebraska has a Ground Water Management and Protection Act declaring geographic area with the boundaries of the Upper Big Blue NRD a Control Area. This Act gives the Upper Big Blue NRD Board of Directors the authority to create Rules and Regulations, which the Upper Big Blue NRD staff enforce. These Rules and Regulations, set by the Board of Directors, apply to well spacing in High Risk Groundwater Areas, as well as other elements of water quality and quantity management in the district. To see the full document of the NRD's Rules and Regulations, please visit www.upperbigblue.org or visit the office to request a copy. Groundwater management rules and regulations are addressed in Rule 5.

WELL PERMIT PROCESS

If well spacing regulations have been met, the landowner may apply for a well permit.

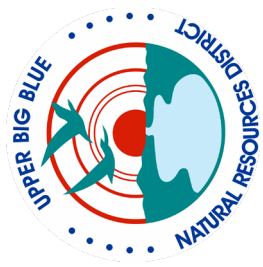
- The landowner completes a Well Construction Permit Application and submits it to the Upper Big Blue NRD for review.

WELL SPACING RULES FOR HIGH-RISK GROUNDWATER AREAS

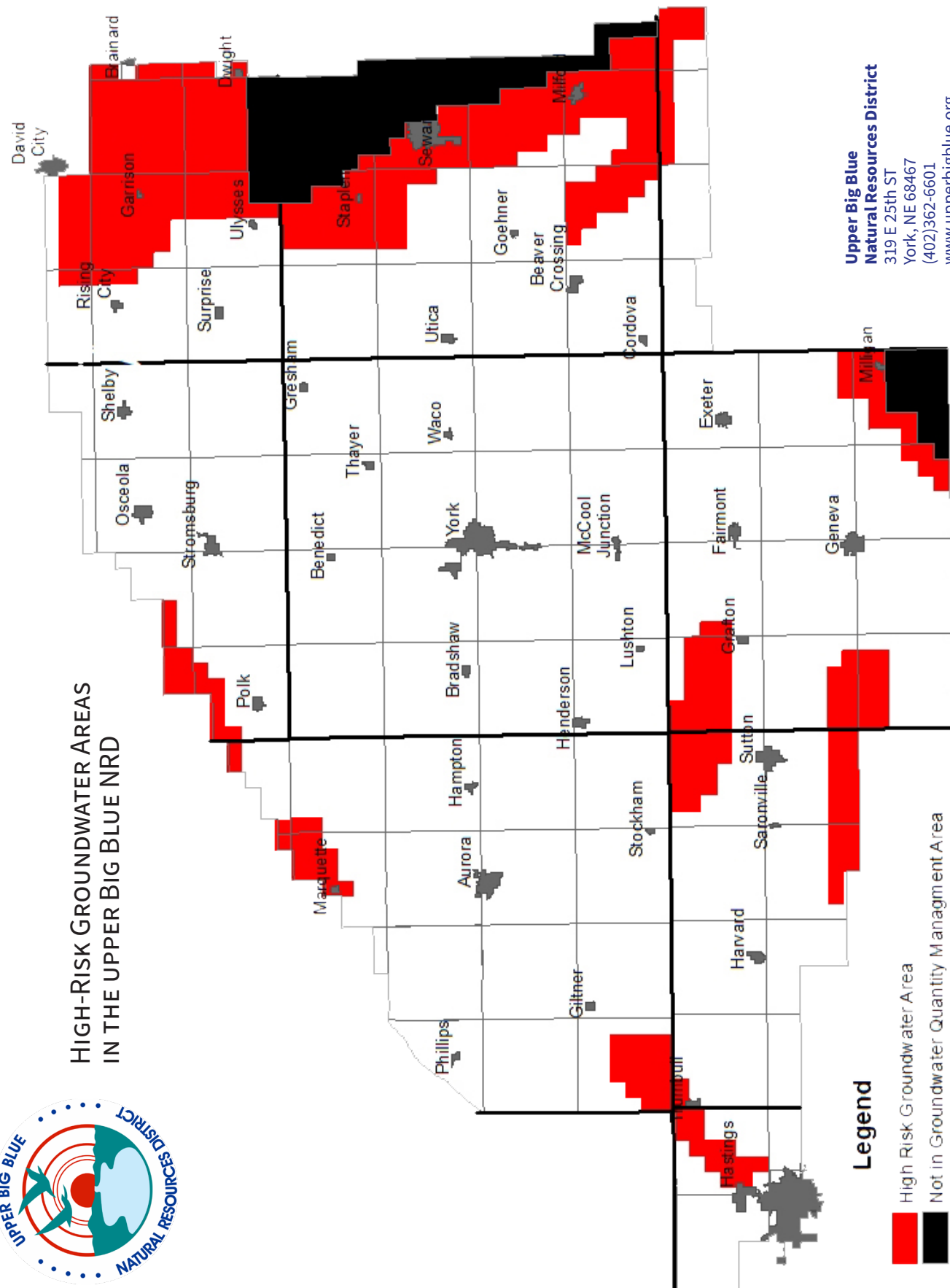
- Two miles from municipal wells
- 1,250 ft. from all high capacity wells
- 1,250 ft. from domestic wells under different ownership
- Maximum of 1 well per 80 acres (or less)
- Maximum of 2 wells per 160 acres (or less)

- NRD staff reviews the application, and if it meets the requirements set forth in Rule 5, the permit is granted. If it does not meet the requirements set forth in Rule 5, the permit is rejected and returned to the applicant with proposed alternatives so that a permit can be granted. If no alternatives exist, the well permit application is returned stating that there are no other options.
- If the permit is approved, the Upper Big Blue NRD will send a copy of the approved permit to interested parties such as county zoning, county assessor, well driller, Department of Natural Resources, city/village and other state agencies as needed. This will give them the opportunity to make sure the well permit meets with their requirements and respond if it doesn't.
- The well must be constructed by a driller licensed with the State of Nebraska.
- Issuance of this permit DOES NOT imply that the proposed well complies with federal, state, or local requirements. It is the responsibility of the applicant to determine compliance with all requirements related to the construction and operation of the proposed well.

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HIGH-RISK GROUNDWATER AREAS
IN THE UPPER BIG BLUE NRD



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Natural Resources District**
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Legend
█ High Risk Groundwater Area
█ Not in Groundwater Quantity Management Area