## Rapid Assessment Form for Wells Affected by Wildfire

*Use CDC’s form to rapidly assess risks to drinking water from household wells and water system infrastructure after a wildfire.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property owner: ___________________________</th>
<th>Phone: ___________________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address: __________________________________</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County: ____________________________________</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**GPS location of residence/business:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Latitude: _________</th>
<th>Longitude: _________</th>
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**Associated fire name (if known):**

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### OUTDOORS

1. Observe fire damage to the building or property.

   a. Does the building have power? □ Yes □ No

   b. If no power, is a generator being used? □ Yes □ No □ N/A

      *Undersized generators can damage the pumping system. A licensed well contractor, electrician, or power company should determine the proper generator to avoid damage to the pump and well system.*

      If yes, is the generator located outside and at least 20 feet away from doors, windows, and vents? □ Yes □ No

      *Never use a generator inside, even if doors and windows are open.*

      *Use generators and any gas-powered equipment outside, at least 20 feet away from doors, windows, and vents.*

   c. Is the exterior of the building burned or showing signs of heat damage? □ Yes □ No

      *A licensed well company may need to inspect the system if the outside of the building or yard area near the well is burned.*

   d. Are chemicals and combustibles stored at an acceptable offset distance of the well? □ Yes □ No

      *This distance can vary by jurisdiction.*

      If yes, what type: ___________________________

   e. Are large fuel or chemical tanks at an acceptable offset distance from the well? □ Yes □ No

      If no, what type: ___________________________

   f. Is there an operational municipal sewer connection for the building? □ Yes □ No □ Unknown

      If no or unknown, is a functional onsite wastewater system able to treat wastewater discharges from the building? □ Yes □ No
2. Observe fire damage associated with the well.
Damage to electrical wires, controls, pipes, pressure tanks, and other components of these systems may affect system performance and may compromise the safety of the water supply. It could also affect the proper disposal of wastewater.

a. Is the well cap missing or damaged? □ Yes □ No
A missing or damaged well cap can allow ash, animals, insects, and other debris to enter uncovered wells and contaminate the well. Temporarily cover to prevent contaminants from entering.

b. Is surface water able to enter the exposed well? □ Yes □ No
Rainwater runoff after a fire can allow ash, debris, or other contaminants to enter the well.

c. Are rubber gaskets missing or damaged in the sanitary seal on or near the top of the well casing or pitless unit? □ Yes □ No

... (remaining points a through j)...

3. Observe the interior of the building for fire damage, plumbing leaks, and changes in operation.

a. Is water flow interrupted with air escaping when faucets are turned on? □ Yes □ No
Interrupted flow of water suggests loss of pressure.

b. Does the water taste or smell different (for example, an earthy or smoky smell or an odor of petroleum or gas)? □ Yes □ No

c. Are chlorinators or other water treatment equipment inside the building damaged or nonoperational? □ Yes □ No □ N/A

... (remaining points a through j)...

INDOORS