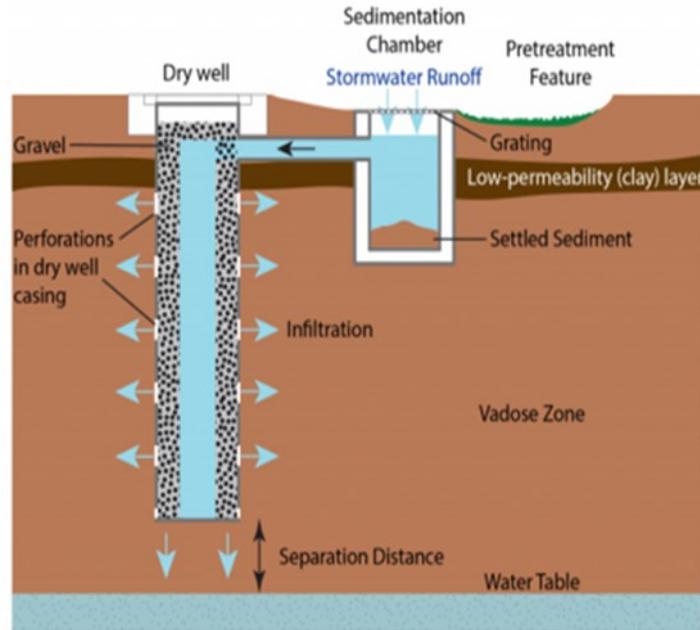


# Dry Wells

**Dry Wells-** A dry well transmits surface water underground and is deeper than its width at the surface. They are often lined with perforated casings and can be filled with gravel or rock. Dry wells usually include some form of pretreatment to remove oil, particles, and associated contaminants reducing the risk of clogging the wells and transporting contaminants underground. These wells meet EPA's and RIDEM's UIC definition of a Class V Well which require permitting.



Dry well use is applicable only where their subgrade soils have the required permeability rates. Like other BMPs that rely on infiltration, dry wells are not appropriate for areas where high pollutant or sediment loading is anticipated due to the potential for groundwater contamination. Specifically, dry wells must not be used in the following locations:

- Industrial and commercial areas where solvents and/or petroleum products are loaded, unloaded, stored, or applied; or pesticides are loaded, unloaded, or stored.
- Areas where hazardous materials are expected to be present in greater than “reportable quantities” as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the Code of Federal Regulations at 40 CFR 302.4.
- Areas where dry well use would be inconsistent with an RIDEM-approved remedial action work plan or landfill closure plan.
- Areas with high risks for spills of toxic materials such as gas stations and vehicle maintenance facilities.
- Areas where industrial stormwater runoff is exposed to “source material.” “Source material” means any material (s) or machinery, located at an industrial facility, that is directly or indirectly related to process, manufacturing or other industrial activities, that could be a source of pollutants in any industrial stormwater discharge to groundwater. Source materials include, but are not limited to raw materials, intermediate products, final products, waste materials, by-products, industrial machinery and fuels, and lubricants, solvents, and detergents that are related to process, manufacturing, or other industrial activities that are exposed to stormwater.

