The Down Well Camera:

Helping Us Discover What Lies Below!

Keith Fielder
Putnam County Extension Coordinator
“Country Living Requires Knowledge!”

- Will Rogers

- Rural Homeowners Not Familiar With Drinking Water Wells.
- How Constructed
- How They Work
- Upkeep!
THIS IS NOT WHAT I AM USED TOO!

- For Some The Learning Curve Has Been Steep!
Now That’s More Like It!

- First we have to work from the familiar
- Makes it easier to discuss problems.
- But... Every well is not the same...
What Is A Drinking Water Well?

- Is it just a hole drilled into the ground that water comes out of?
Types Of Drinking Water Wells

Dug Well
- Solid Concrete Cover
- Mounded earth
- Concrete, Bentonite or Clay Slurry
- 2.5 metres (8 ft.)
- Clean Sand and Gravel
- Water Table
- Watertight Casing Joint
- Clean, Washed Gravel Filter
- Edge of Excavation
- Well Casing

Drilled Well
- Mounded Earth
- 0.4 metres (16 in.)
- Sand
- Loam
- 6.0 metres (20 ft.)
- Annular Seal (Cement Boss, Concrete, Bentonite or Clay Slurry)
- Steel Well Casing
- Static Water Level
- Edge of Excavation
- Open Bedrock Hole
- Bedrock Aquifer

Source: Best Management Practices: Water Wells (Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada)
What Are The Parts Of A Drinking Water Well?

- Bore Hole
- Pressure Tank
- Sanitary Seal
- Grout – Cement or Clay
- Casing – Most often Plastic Pipe (PVC)
- Drop Pipe
- Submersible Pump
We Often Have Problems With Our Wells...

- Muddy Water
- Bad Taste
- Odor
- Stain Our Laundry & Fixtures
- Bio Films (Better known as Goo!)
How Do I See Down There?

- Correcting Problems Down Well Is Difficult Due To The Blind Nature Of The Task!

- We Need Something To See With!
The Well Camera!
The Down Well Camera!
A Very Handy Tool!
Sometimes You Even Find “Critters”
What Can We Do With These Cameras

- Accurate Depth Readings
- Capture Hidden Details & Problems
  - Holes, Lack of Grout, Seepage, Cracked Casings
- Locate Source Of Contamination
  - Roots, Trash, Insects and other Critters!
- Inspect Abandoned Wells Before Closure
- Restore Lost Yield
  - Clogged Screens, Sand Plugs, Collapse
Put It All Together:

- The Down Well Camera Gives Us An Accurate, Real Time Method Of Diagnosing Well Problems.
It All Comes Down To:

- Helping The Well Owner Make Better Decisions For A Better Life!
Any Questions?

Thank You!