



**Phone: (651) 248-5420**

**How to Check Your Well Pressure Tank**  
(Air Charge & Basic Function Check)

**What You'll Need**

- Tire pressure gauge
- Air compressor or bicycle pump
- Small screwdriver or wrench (if needed)
- Towel or bucket
- Hose if there is a drain valve

**Step 1: Turn Off Power to the Well**

- Turn off the breaker that supplies power to the well pump.
- This is critical for safety and to get an accurate reading.

**Step 2: Drain the Water Pressure**

1. Open a faucet or drain valve near the pressure tank.
2. Let the water run until it completely stops.
3. Leave the faucet open while checking the tank.

***The system must have zero water pressure when checking air pressure.***

**Step 3: Locate the Air Valve**

- Find the air valve (Schrader valve) on the pressure tank.
- It looks like a tire valve and is usually:
  - On the top of the tank, or
  - On the side near the top

**Step 4: Check the Air Pressure**

1. Press the tire gauge onto the air valve.
2. Read the pressure.

**Correct Air Pressure:**

- The tank should be set 2 PSI below the pump cut-in pressure.

Examples:

- 30/50 pressure switch → Tank set to 28 PSI
- 40/60 pressure switch → Tank set to 38 PSI

**Step 5: Adjust Air Pressure (If Needed)**

- If pressure is low: Add air using a compressor or bike pump.
- If pressure is too high: Press the valve briefly to release air.

Recheck until the correct PSI is reached.

**Step 6: Turn Power Back On**

1. Close the faucet you opened earlier.
2. Turn the breaker back on.
3. Let the system refill and build pressure.

**Step 7: Observe System Operation**

- The pump should:
  - Run smoothly
  - Shut off at the normal cut-out pressure
- Water pressure should feel steady.

**Warning Signs of a Bad Pressure Tank**

- Water spurts or pressure fluctuates
- Pump turns on and off rapidly (short cycling)
- Tank feels heavy or full of water when tapped
- Air comes out of the air valve instead of water (good)  
Water comes out of the air valve = bad bladder

**Important Notes**

- Never check air pressure while the system is pressurized.
- If the tank will not hold air, the bladder is likely failed.
- If unsure of pressure switch settings, contact a professional.