

**A Dowser's Series  
No 4**

*How To Dowse A Water Well*

*A Dowser's Series*  
Edgewater, Colorado 2000

**By Gregory A. Storozuk**  
Edgewater, Colorado 2000

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This booklet is the fourth in a series established by the author in September 1992

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# How To Dowse A Water Well

By Greg Storozuk, Professional Dowser

## About the author:

Greg is a professional dowser living in Colorado. As a child his grandfather showed him how to use a forked switch, but, like most children, play time was too important to delve into such esoterica. His next encounter was as a complete skeptic following a four year stint in the U.S. Coast Guard and graduation from college in 1972. At one point a cousin showed him how to dowse for water giving him minimal instruction and then turning him loose to either prove or disprove whether he could dowse successfully. That weekend changed Greg's life. Now a full-time professional dowser for 27 years, Past President of the American Society of Dowsers, author, speaker, and well-experienced in a variety of dowsing disciplines, he returns to the most basic of dowsing practices in "How to Dowse a Water Well".

## INTRODUCTION

### Just what *is* dowsing?

One dictionary offers a definition of dowsing as, "To search for a source of water or minerals by walking about while holding a divining rod."

Most dowsers consider this definition too limited and prefer one offered by Ray Willey in his book *Modern Dowsing*<sup>1</sup>. He defines dowsing as "The exercise of a human faculty which allows one to obtain information in some manner beyond the power and scope of the standard human senses."

According to Willey, this 'human faculty' can be applied to a number of different targets beyond finding water and minerals, although water locating is still the primary function of a well-trained dowser and one commonly accepted by the general public. Today's trained water dowsers are able to determine not only the existence of water, but also its depth, volume, temperature, and other characteristics of a well site before the drill bit ever enters the ground.

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<sup>1</sup>Esoteric Publications, Phoenix, Arizona 1976

It must be noted that not all dowsers are trained to locate underground water. Although dowsing was presumably first used for survival, many modern dowsers have expanded the use of their dowsing ability to obtain information about numerous applications unrelated to water.

If you have never dowsed before, there are certain things which must be considered before undertaking any project. It is unreasonable to assume that dowsing a water well will be an easy task. The first thing to learn is that dowsing is unlike other skills. Dowsing involves a mental ability and discipline requiring a state of mental acuity quite different and perhaps more difficult for people to achieve. While long thought to be the case by practitioners this was confirmed through electroencephalographic testing in September of 1982.<sup>2</sup>

As with many skills, conscious repetition is a good method to achieve competence. With dowsing, by contrast, the only effort required is to relax and to *allow* the skill to work *through* you. *Trying* to make dowsing work is similar to pushing on a door that says "pull". This passive state of allowing can be difficult for some people to attain.

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<sup>2</sup>Brain Patterns Characteristic of Dowsers, Dr. Edith Jurka, "The American Dowser" Danville, Vt. Volume 23, Number 1

Generally speaking then, dowsing is a skill based on simplicity. Since water is a key element for life, it may be that the ability to locate water was bred into mammals as an instinct. The inability of science to find an explanation for the skill can not obviate the fact that dowsing has been used to locate water for hundreds and perhaps thousands of years.

The premise of this booklet is that *anyone* can learn how to locate water via the dowsing method, and that this core skill is the basis upon which all other dowsing skills can evolve.

Need ya' cah fixed?  
Call a mechanic.  
Need some plumin'?'  
Call a plumuh.  
Need some watuh?  
Call a dowsuh.  
Ayuh!

## Part 1

# Hydrological Theories

## Standard Theory

Standard hydrological theory suggests that groundwater begins as an evaporate from oceans, lakes, rivers, and streams, and transpiration from soil, trees, bushes, grasses, and other foliage which then rises into the atmosphere. The particles link together to form clouds which then float upon atmospheric winds and eventually fall to the earth's surface as precipitation.

Once the water reaches the surface, gravitational forces leach some of the water deeper into the substrata, or the zone of aeration. Plants utilize what they can to once again begin the transpiration cycle, and whatever water isn't absorbed by plant or soil percolates further downward into the zone of saturation. The bottom of this zone is underlain by impermeable layers of rock. Water accumulations in this zone are referred to as aquifers or the water table and are the source of most groundwater wells.

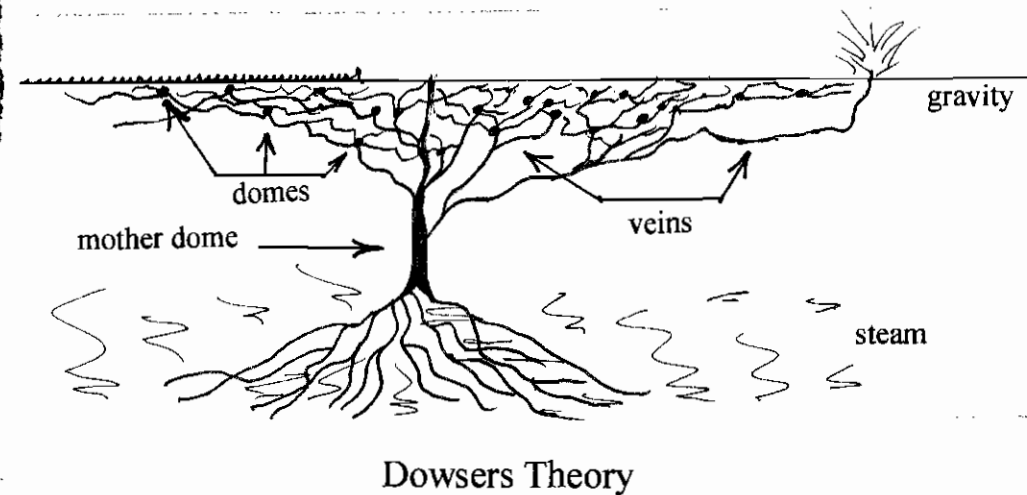
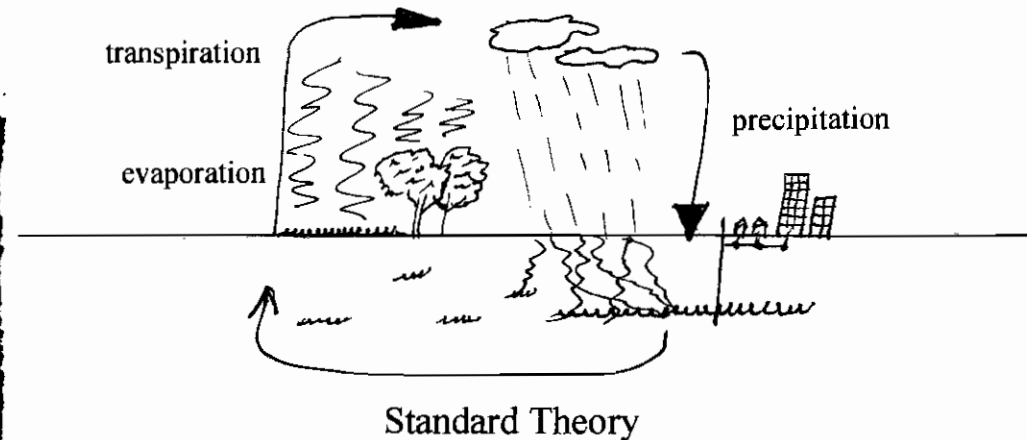
## Dowsing Theory

The dowser's hydrological theory is adopted from the writings of various historical figures going back at least 500 years. This theory is an underground mirror image of standard hydrological theory which embraces the natural law "As above, so below".

To mirror the evaporation and transpiration cycles of standard hydrological theory, dowsing theory suggests the force of gravity pulls water from ocean bottoms and surface precipitation toward the earth's core, where due to heat from internal pressures, some of the water will turn into steam.

It will then seek an outlet in which to expand. This pressurized, superheated steam, will find small cracks in the overlaying rock or wear down weak spots to create new fractures. The further steam travels from the heat source it will cool and condense into pure, fresh, water, leaving the minerals behind. Now a liquid, the water will not only continue its upward movement, but will also expand *laterally* underneath the earth's crust mirroring surface rivers, streams and creeks.

Taken as a whole, standard hydrological theory, together with dowsing's hydrological theory will form a complete picture of the earth's natural hydrological cycle.



## Differences Between the Two Theories

The standard hydrological cycle can be easily understood. It's visible, simplistic, and obvious. Unfortunately, it is also affected by flooding, erosion, and pollution. Cities with wells drilled into polluted aquifers can dangerously affect entire populations as has been reported in a number of instances.

Dowsing theory involves the unseen, scientifically unproven, and less obvious, but manifests itself in natural cold springs, hot springs, geysers, artesian wells and oases. Lending credibility to this theory is a quote taken from *The Divining Hand* and attributed to Leonardo DaVinci's "Treatise on water" which states:

*"The same cause which moves the humours in every species of animate bodies against the natural law of gravity also propels the water through the veins of the earth wherein it is enclosed and distributes it through small passages. And as the blood rises from below and pours out through the broken veins of the forehead, as the water rises from the lowest part of the vine to the branches that are cut, so from the lowest depth of the sea the water rises to the summits of mountains, where,*

*finding the veins broken, it pours out and returns to the bottom of the sea."*<sup>3</sup>

As dowsers believe, if this water is continually being created and circulated, the supply, volume, and quality, would remain steady for wells drilled into veins.

Although earthquakes or other humanly caused movements may alter the underground course of veins, the water, being under pressure, will automatically seek an alternative course as close to the original course as possible.

### Dowsing terminology:

It is necessary to understand some dowsing terminology in order to help explain the dowser's hydrological cycle.

A *Mother Dome* is the term used to define a meandering, vertical passageway of steam and condensed water driving upward from below the earth's surface. Mother domes are the only domes with direct contact to the heat source. They're also referred to as *Primary Domes*. To use the analogy of a tree, mother domes would be considered the trunk.

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<sup>3</sup>Christopher Bird, *The Divining Hand*, Whitford Press; Atglen, PA 1993 p152

*Veins* are offshoots, leading to, or coming from a dome. They are analogous to the root system and branches of a tree, so they will vary in size, length, and volume.

*Domes.* A dome is a vertical offshoot of a vein, which then divides itself into smaller veins. Depending on its proximity to a mother dome and the supply vein from which it came, ordinary domes and their veins will continue to be formed in progressively smaller sizes and volumes as long as the underground pressure and pathways are still viable.

Generally speaking, domes are vertical, and veins are horizontal. When viewed from the side, one first sees a mother or primary dome, with vertical veins splitting off to form domes. The domes then spawn smaller veins which in turn split forming other domes etc. In this way, one mother dome can cover perhaps hundreds of square miles laced with underground veins regardless of surface conditions. This explains why desert oases and natural cold springs exist in areas of low precipitation.

When drilling a water well, a dowser *never* drills into a dome. Domes are considered as an integral pump in a closed circulatory system and as the parents of veins. To drill from the surface into a dome would allow air into the closed system and effectively kill the dome and all veins leading from it by releasing its natural pressure. Thus, water

wells should *always* be drilled into *veins*. As dowsers point out doctors don't take blood samples from a heart or artery lest they interrupt a patient's pressurized system.

Ayuh!.....I'm a dowsuh..  
Whatchya' need?

Risk is the price we pay  
for opportunity.



## Part 2

### The Dowsing State of Mind

Learning to dowse is unlike learning other skills. Contrary to skills where improvement requires more effort, with dowsing just the opposite is true. Effective dowsing requires a relaxed but focused mind at all times. In essence, you do not *make* dowsing work. Rather, you *relax* and *allow* the dowsing process to work *through* you. If at any time the search is interrupted by an intruding thought, the dowser should immediately stop and take as much time as it requires to re-focus on the target being sought. No outside thoughts should be permitted to enter the mind. Singularity of focus must be maintained.

This may be a difficult state for some people to achieve, so the following relaxation techniques are offered for your consideration. The emphasis is to relax the mind completely so it may then be impressed with images and questions pertaining only to the dowsing search.

#### Technique I

1. Sit in a comfortable chair with your feet flat on the floor.
2. Take a few deep breaths, making sure to inhale and exhale fully.
3. Close your eyes.
4. Allow your body to relax from the top of your head downward. Focus on relaxing your scalp, forehead, ears, eyebrows, eyes, nose, lips, chin, and neck. Then relax the shoulders, upper arms, elbows, forearms, wrists, hands and fingers.
5. Continue downward, relaxing the chest, stomach, groin, buttocks, hips, thighs, knees, calves, ankles, feet, toes, and lastly, the soles of your feet.

**NOTE:** If your mind is focused on remembering these instructions, merely reading these words will help place you in a semi-relaxed state.

#### Technique II

1. Sit in a comfortable chair with your feet flat on the floor.
2. Imagine yourself in the front row of an empty, darkened, movie theater looking at a blank screen. If you see 'critters' running back and forth on the screen, allow

them to do so. By paying them no attention eventually they will disappear.

3. See the now blank screen as being blue, or purple, with no other activity present.

### Technique III

1. Sit in a comfortable chair with your feet flat on the floor.
2. Close your eyes and relax.
3. Focus your mind on a red apple with a stem and leaf floating in the air in front of you. See how long you are able to maintain the image before it changes. Keep practicing until you can maintain that focus for at least a minute. When the apple is firmly implanted on your visual screen do a three dimensional holographic tour around the apple from all directions.

When you feel you have sufficiently mastered the ability to relax, practice from the *standing* position. Then, when you're ready, open your eyes and walk across the room. Carefully notice how you feel. This is your dowsing state of mind which needs to be sustained when you are dowsing a well or other targets in the field.

## Part 3

### The Dowsing Tools

One of the first decisions facing a new dowser is the choice of dowsing tools. Keep in mind that dowsing is a simple, logical, mental ability so dowsing tools should be simple as well.

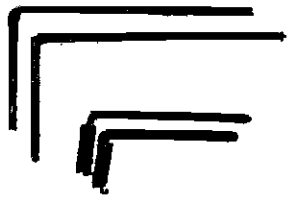
The material from which dowsing tools are made makes absolutely no difference.

A flexible forked twig from any type of tree will work just as well as a pliable section of hollow plastic tubing or a street sweeper bristle. A pair of bent brazing rods or 1/16 inch steel rod bent into an "L" shape will work as well as a pair of metal coat hangers. A ring dangling from a shoelace will work as well as a solid gold nugget hanging from a gold chain. Holding the thin end of a bobbing fishing pole will work as well as a door spring.

In the hands of an experienced dowser *any* of these tools will "work", because the main tool is the dowser's mind. What's held in the hand is nothing more than a visual indicator, so the dowsing tool is analogous to a needle on a meter. Expensive battery-powered, specially-loaded,

commercial dowsing equipment will work no better than simple, inexpensive home-made tools.

Dowsing tools are categorized into four main classes - L-rods, Y-rods, pendulums and bobbers, with each class having many different variations. Although the choice of a specific instrument is up to the user, most dowsers will choose L-rods or Y-rods to dowse a water well due to their ease of procurement and use. It should also be mentioned that the Y-rod is the only dowsing instrument capable of pointing to a specific spot on the ground showing precisely where to dig or drill. For the instructional purposes in this booklet, L-rods and Y-rods will be used.



L-Rods  
with or without handles



Y-Rods  
wood or flexible plastic

## CODES

Dowsing is a language with each movement of the instrument playing an important role in the dialogue, so it's important to understand what the dowsing instrument is saying. Codes are used to indicate "yes" and "no" answers to the questions being asked. To find your personal codes, grasp the instrument of choice in the search position as shown and ask the following question:

*"When the answer is 'yes' how will this instrument respond?"*

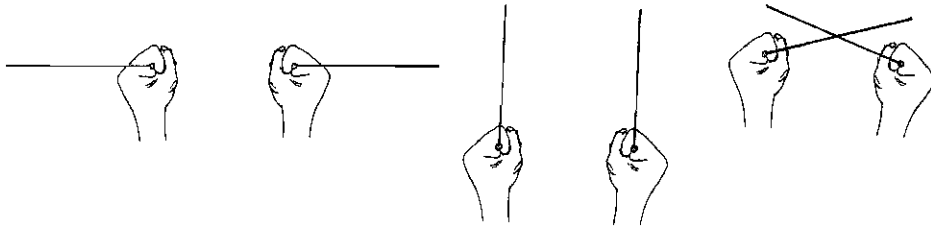
then,

*"When the answer is 'no' how will this instrument respond?"*

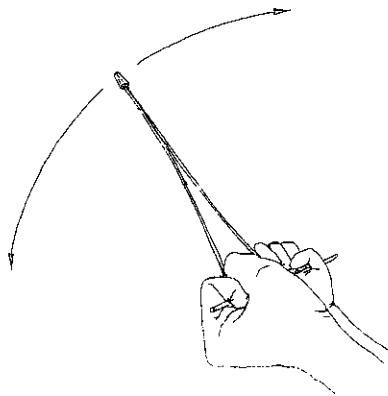
Remember to relax your mind and allow the instruments to move. Once movement begins, let it continue until you receive a full and complete response. If at first you have difficulty achieving a response, take a deep breath, relax, and start over. Always remember that dowsing works *through* you, so it's important so take on the role of a passive observer.

Movement on a dowsing tool is an unconscious muscular response to the specific question being asked. No movement on an instrument is usually indicative of a 'no' answer - or an unprepared state of mind.

Once the instruments react to the 'yes' and 'no' questions and you can clearly discern the responses you only then are ready to begin simple practice searches. But, first, the proper questions must be posed.



Possible responses for yés's and no's



## Part 4

### Asking Questions

The first three questions most dowsers usually ask before starting any dowsing search are:

“May I dowse now?”

“Can I dowse now?”

“Should I dowse now?”

These three questions will help you to assess your current state of preparation. A “no” answer to *any* of these questions means a temporarily halt is necessary before continuing, so take an additional minute or two to relax and clear your mind before re-asking the questions. If after three or more repetitions of asking these questions still results in a ‘no’ answer, it’s best to stop completely for the day. Always remember that dowsing works through you, so forcing the issue is not the way to achieve your goal.

Asking precise questions is a key factor in the dowsing process. In keeping with the simple nature of the skill,

each question asked must be logical, specific, and only answerable with a “yes” or a “no”. First, list briefly what you want to know in a few words.

**For example:**

**Potability** - Good taste, clarity, free from bacteria, etc.

**Depth** - A major cost consideration if drilling. A major time consideration if you opt to dig.

**Volume of the vein** - On a year round basis measured in gallons per minute. One gallon per minute equals 1,440 gallons per day. Two gallons 2880 gallons, etc.

**Recoverable volume** - How many gallons per minute will you be able to retrieve daily?

**Width of the vein** - The vein must be a wide enough target for the driller to hit.

**Direction of flow** - Always look for vein flows upstream from a leach field or other possible cause of contamination such as barns, corrals, or junk piles.

**Speed of the vein** - Measured in miles per hour on a daily year-round basis. Make sure the water is flowing *now*. A speed of zero may indicate a dry or seasonal vein, or

possibly a clay layer with saturation but no recoverable water.

Use notes to write down your questions so they are only answerable “yes” or “no”. Without notes, it is difficult to retain your focus. In the field you will be subject to many physical influences; wind, sun, observers, maintaining your footing, etc. Your memory can fade or even change direction raising the possibility of asking a slightly different question. Be precise, logical, and specific, using one thought per question.

**Suggestion:** Put your written questions away for two or three days and occupy your mind with other things. Then, a few days later, review your questions with a fresh mind. Repeat this step as often as necessary until the questions you’re asking are precisely what you want to know.

When you are seeking water, there are any number of practical considerations posed as non-dowsing questions:

Is the location too close to the homesite? Too far?

Is the site accessible for the drilling rig?

Do trees or branches need to be removed or cut prior to drilling?

Legally, is a property line too close to your location?

Utilities? Underground, surface and overhead?

Would your well interfere with a neighbors well?

Is the location too close to a septic system that's currently in use or abandoned?

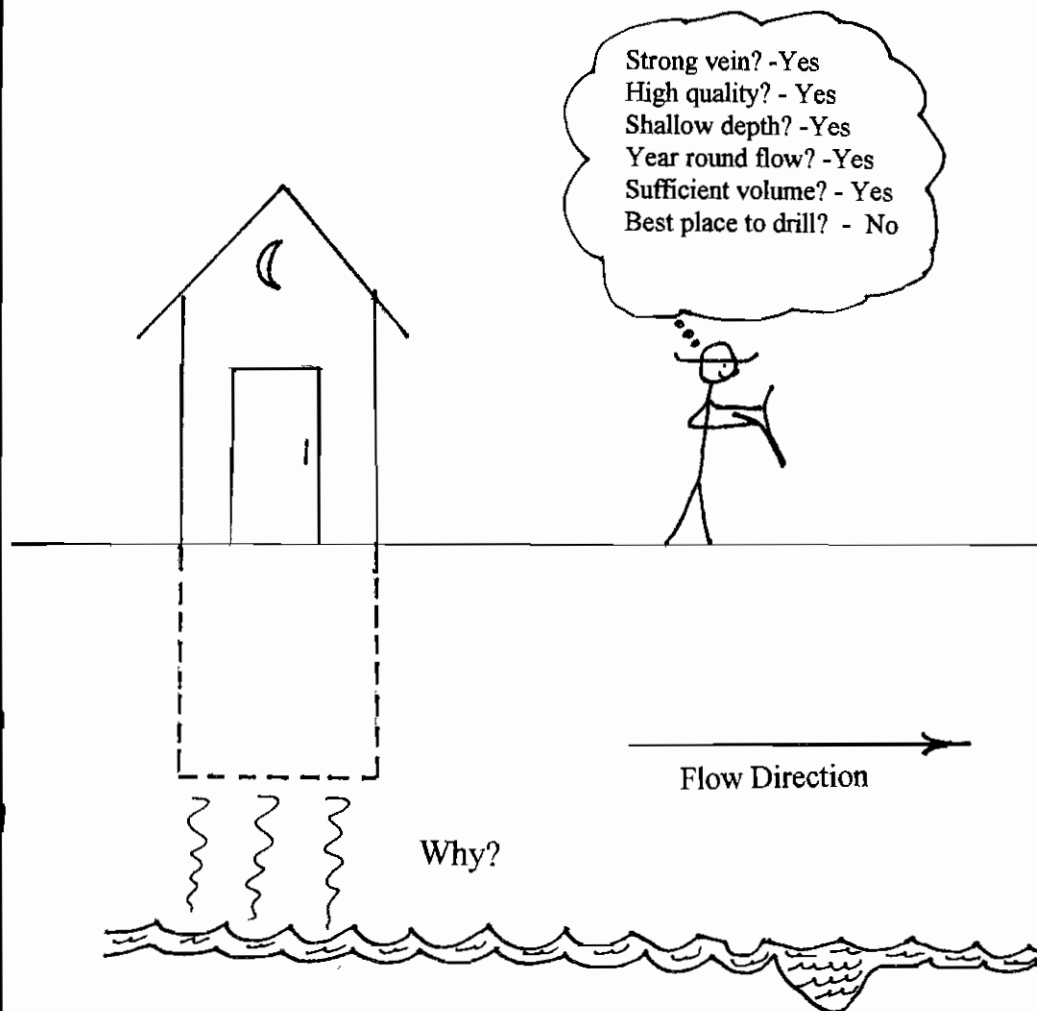
Any burial or historic sites nearby?

**Remember:**

1. Write your questions down. Memory is unreliable.
2. When forming a dowsing question, remember that it should *be* a question, not a statement or a demand. Statements or demands are unanswerable with a yes or no response.
3. Each question should contain a single, logical, thought. Break down an involved search into multiple questions rather than attempting to wrap the subject into a single blanket question.
4. Phrase your questions so they are only answerable 'yes' or 'no'.

5. Relax when you ask the question and remain that way until it is answered.

6. Focus on the search objective.



## Part 5

### Let the Search Begin!

Once dowsing terminology is understood; the state of mind is under control; a command of instrument usage and coded reactions has been learned, and a list of accurately written questions is in hand, you are now ready to begin a field search.

Remember to dress comfortably, but also be prepared for other existing conditions. Warm, sunny days might require a shade hat, sunscreen, and insect repellent, or, boots, long pants, and long sleeves would be best for overgrown areas.

Once you're on site, take a look at the terrain. Remember, you will be concentrating 100 percent on the dowsing procedure so surprises should be avoided at all cost. Will tall grass or shrubbery hide a hole, a snake, or other animal if your search takes you in that direction? If so, perhaps a noisy walk-through would help.

If you're with a companion, do not converse. Focus on your dowsing procedure. Even the slightest interruption could skew or negate your train of thought requiring you to start over.

Remain hydrated but do your nature call before you begin to dowse.

Remember, by its nature dowsing is a solitary activity, so prepare yourself mentally to begin your search. When you are ready, hold the rods in the search position and begin asking questions using your own list or the examples used here. The questions asked will most likely not be identical for each dowser but should cover each aspect of the subject as completely as possible.

Standing on the edge of the search area, ask:

*“Are there any underground veins of fresh, flowing, potable water suitable for a well located on this property?”*

Note how carefully the question is worded. In addition to specific aspects of the property's potential for having a vein of water beneath the surface, the question can only be answered “yes” or “no”. The specific phrasing also implies that if the answer is ‘no’ to this question the search should be amended or concluded.

If the answer is ‘yes’ continue.

Using a single L-rod in your dominant hand, ask:

*“In which direction is the nearest underground vein of fresh, flowing, potable water suitable for a well?”*

With an open, uncluttered mind, allow the rod to point in a specific direction. Once the rod ‘locks’ onto a direction: 1) Face the direction indicated; 2) Place both rods into the search position; 3) Clear your mind; 4) Relax and begin walking naturally with your attention focused *only* on locating the *center* of the vein.

Make sure the rods are pointed directly ahead of you and slightly downward to keep them from wavering. As you approach the vein, the rods may begin to move. Slow your pace, but continue walking until the rods *fully* open or *fully* close in your predetermined “yes” answer. This is the *center* of the vein.

**NOTE:** Locating the *center* of a vein is important as it gives you a specific starting point. If you only asked for “a vein”, you could possibly be receiving reactions to:

a) The nearest edge, b) The center, c) The deepest part or, d) the furthest edge.

To double check your initial location ask:

*“Am I correct in stating that I’m now standing directly over the center of this vein?”*

Occasionally, a physical feeling may accompany your dowsing reaction. If it “feels good”, chances are your body is reacting to a vein of potable water. However, if the feeling makes you queasy, or “feel bad”, you may have passed over a toxic vein or other dowsing target, not the vein that you were seeking. Should this happen, keep walking in the initial direction shown by the rod. Once you become convinced you’re standing directly over the center of the vein you were looking for, relax, take a deep breath, and re-set your mind. It’s time to evaluate the vein.

With rods in the search position, double-check your position by asking:

*“Am I correct in stating that I’m now standing directly over the center of a vein of fresh, flowing potable water, suitable for a well?”*

If the answer is “yes” you may now begin asking your evaluative questions.



## Depth

*“From the bottom of my feet, is it at least one foot in depth to the top of the vein?”*  
(Yes or no. If yes, continue..)

*“Is it at least five feet to the top of the vein?”*  
(Yes or no. If yes, continue..)

*“Is it at least ten feet to the top of the vein?”*  
(Yes or no. If yes, continue..)

Keep dowsing in five foot increments until you receive a ‘no’ answer. Then return to the previous ‘yes’ answer and continue counting down in single digits. The last ‘yes’ answer will be the depth. You may also use larger increments but be consistent with their use.

## Volume

*“Is this vein flowing at least one gallon per minute now?”*  
(Yes or no.)

*“Is this vein flowing at least two gallons per minute now?”* (Yes or no.)

Again, continue counting in single digits until you receive a “no” answer. Your previous “yes” answer will be the approximate flow volume of the vein.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Although a vein may have a high flow volume, this does not mean the recovery rate above ground will be the same. If the vein is wide and shallow (called “sheet” water), a 50 gallon per minute flow volume would be dispersed over a broad area. The drill hole, normally being six inches in diameter, would only be able to recover a small portion of the total flow.

## Recoverable Volume

To account for sheet water or other restrictive flows, ask:

*“How many gallons of water per minute can be successfully recovered above ground from a hole drilled at this location?”*

*“At least one gallon per minute?”*

*At least two gallons per minute?” etc.*

The last ‘yes’ answer will be your approximate recovery volume.

Continue dowsing questions from your list until you have evaluated the vein thoroughly. Keep in mind that up to this point you have dowsed and evaluated only the nearest vein to where you were initially standing. (Remember the first question?). There may be other veins on the property from which to choose, so move away from the vein you are standing on to look for a different one.

## Part 6

### Head Scratchers (Unexpected Experiences)

Just when we think we have it altogether, there's often something that pops up unexpectedly. Not all such bewilderment's can be covered in one booklet, but here are some of the most common:

**Unusual or odd reactions. Not your normally practiced "yes's" and "no's".**

Whenever a tool behaves differently than what you've practiced, your mind is attempting to show you something new. First, always ask:

*"Should I be dowsing now?"*

If you receive a "no" answer stop immediately and take a few minutes to think about something else. After a reasonable amount of time, ask:

*"May I continue dowsing now?"*

If you still receive a “no” it’s best to take a long break or call it a day.

*Never force your dowsing!*

If you are permitted to continue, take the time to think about what the problem could be. Does it have anything to do with the vein? The area? Would there be difficulty drilling here? Through a series of yes/no questions, continue your inquiry until you resolve the problem to your satisfaction.

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**Partial or incomplete reactions** are usually indicative of a “yeah”, or “nah” answer but not a definitive “yes” or “no”, so it’s best to re-phrase and re-ask the question.

**An unusually powerful reaction** may not necessarily mean an enormous volume of water be a definitive answer. It could also be indicative of a tight formation, a vein close to the surface, or something else on the site to consider. Pay attention. Relax. Form a new question to ask.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Difficulty in finding the depth of your target vein.** This could be caused by vein “stacking” or having more than one vein in the area. You may have a very strong reaction to a certain area, but your dowsing rods may behave erratically when depthing. Should this happen ask:

*“Is there more than one water vein in this area?”*

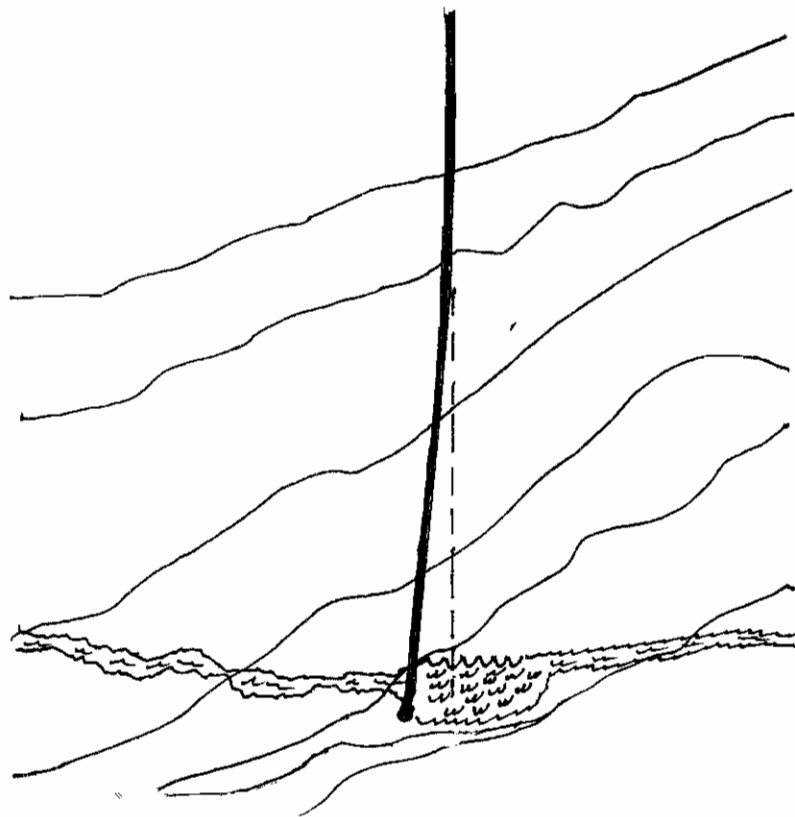
If the answer is “yes”, ask how many veins there are and ask to be shown where the center of each vein is located. If they cross, stand on the crossing spot and evaluate each vein for depth, flow rate, recovery flow rate, and quality. Crossed veins are usually excellent places to drill.

### **CLAY - The dowser’s biggest challenge.**

Even experienced dowsers can mis-read clay concentrations as “flowing water”. Clay, and clay-like soil has a high water content and flows glacially slow but still meets the criterion of “underground flowing water”. Although there may be some high quality veins flowing through a clay layer, they are usually small and most often missed by the driller, or even sealed off by the heat generated by the spinning drill stem. One way to tell if you’ve dowsed a vein or a clay layer is by dowsing for the speed of the vein. If the speed is zero or barely perceptible, chances

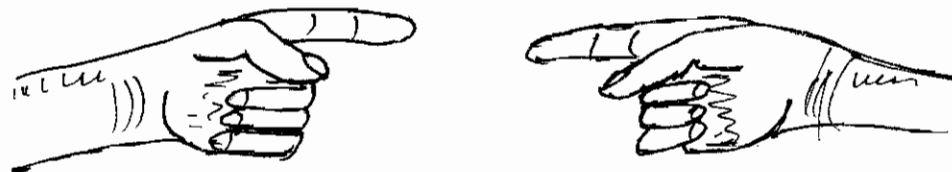
are you've found clay. Again, proper questioning can alert you to this challenge.

Another way to check for clay is to mentally place yourself two feet above the dowsed depth of the vein and begin dowsing down in single digits. If your depth goes well beyond the dowsed level, chances are you're in a clay layer. Repeat the steps as often as necessary until you're certain of the depth.



## Part 7

### When All Else Fails - Blame The Driller



Drillers and dowsers have interesting but sometimes uncomfortable, symbiotic relationships. There are good ones and not so good ones in both camps so a dry hole can result in finger pointing both ways. There are also commonalities. Each side acts professionally, believes strongly in what they do, and are at times wary of the other. Since this booklet takes the side of the dowser, the dowser should be aware of some of the possible sneaky, underhanded, evil, malicious, crafty, dirty tricks played by non-believing drillers to sabotage and discredit a qualified dowsers location.

**The location:**

Marking a dowsed location with a wooden stake or a pile of rocks will only be effective if someone is on site to make sure the drill bit is centered directly over the spot before drilling begins. Normally, "close enough" is what the driller sees as being "on target" but that's not good enough for a dowsed location.

For some reason, stakes and rock piles in the presence of a drill rig have been known to grow legs and walk away from a dowsed site. The cause of this strange phenomenon remains unknown. However, digging a foot deep hole to mark a dowsed location is more permanent, unmoveable, and a wonderful way to show the driller exactly where to drill.

The first 20 feet will usually be drilled using an oversized drill bit to accommodate a steel casing. This is done in adherence to most state laws which require to seal off surface contamination. Once the steel casing is placed in the hole, make certain it is seated and leveled before being cemented into place. This casing also serves as a "gun barrel" to guide the rest of the drilling. If the steel casing is not perfectly seated and leveled, the hole will be drilled aslant to the dowsed subsurface target.

Ethical drillers will level and prop up the casing before pouring cement and then recheck its alignment. Other drillers may level the casing, add the cement and then begin drilling immediately afterward raising the possibility of an askew drill path. The cement should be allowed to cure overnight before drilling continues.

**Drilling Speed:**

Drilling speed is also an area of potential conflict between the dowser and the driller. Dowsed locations depend on straight, vertical holes. Drillers get paid by the foot. This means the faster they drill the quicker they can move on to another job.

There are several problems with drilling too fast. One is that too much downward pressure on the drill bit can cause the drill to wander from the vertical.

A second is that a drill bit will often follow the softest part of the formation, so if the underground formation lays at an angle, a fast turning drill bit may slide down its side, rather than to cut straight down as it should using a slower speed.

A third potential problem is that during the drilling process, air or water is used to keep the drill bit cool and to blow out the cuttings. Faster drilling speeds will

generate additional heat and could seal off the sides of the hole blocking off a low pressure vein, or a vein that was just missed by inaccurate drilling.

For shallow wells drilling speed may not be *as* critical, but at a depth of 200 feet, if the deviation is just 1/2 degree from vertical, the drill bit is already two feet away from where it began on the surface and headed further away. If the dowsed vein is two feet wide and *250 feet* deep it could easily result in a dry hole, or, at the best, wet sand.

Some drillers may use drilling mud for cooling and lubricating the drill bit. This mud may contain bentonite clay which expands when exposed to water and can easily seal off a vein. When the drill bit approaches your dowsed depth, be watchful for any water coming out of the hole. Notify the driller immediately and ask him to check that level using air or water only - not mud.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** *If you drill past your dowsed depth and no water has been found, let the well sit overnight. Many times the water will break through.*

**Mid-drilling corrections:** Before drilling begins, the drill rig must be leveled using hydraulic pads. Notice the location of the hydraulic levers the driller uses. He will

then use a level on the drill stem to assure the hole will begin a straight vertical descent. The deeper the drilling continues however, the weight of the drill string can cause the rig to lean which can lead to a crooked hole. Each drill stem is twenty feet long and weighs about 560 pounds. When the driller becomes aware of a lean he'll raise or lower the hydraulic pads using the appropriate levers to re-level the rig. At this point you will know the rig is no longer level and the hole may be going awry, so be aware of "accidental elbow bumps" on the levers. Also note the position of the drill stem turning inside the steel casing. If it's rubbing against the side of the steel casing the hole is no longer perfectly vertical.

### **Water!**

Assuming all goes well, once water is struck, the drilling should stop and the hole be blown clear. Take note of the depth. Was it close to your prediction? If it is but the volume seems low, ask the driller to let the rig idle for awhile to allow more water to enter the hole, then blow it out again before drilling any deeper. Remember, the vein could be partially sealed or slightly missed.

*Any* water coming steadily out of the hole at this point is at least one half gallon per minute (720 gallons per day). If a steady stream is coming from the hole, the driller will use a one gallon jug and the second hand on his watch to

determine the output. If the volume is sufficient, he'll pump the well for an hour or two to clean out the hole to assure a steady flow. He'll then drill one more stem to allow for sediment.

Count the number of drill sections coming out of the ground to determine the TD (total depth) of the well.

To complete the well, the drill stem is removed and 20 foot sections of PVC plastic pipe are connected and inserted into the hole. Perforated casing will be placed at the depth where the water was found.

Most often, the more a well is used, a "cone of depression" will develop at the bottom of the hole. This allows additional room for sediments and serves to add storage capacity to the well.

The more pressure from the incoming vein the higher the water level will rise in the casing. This is called the "static level". A 20 foot section of plastic casing holds one-and-a-half gallons of water per foot, or thirty gallons.

A 200 foot well, with a static level of 40 feet will store 160 feet of water or 240 gallons. So...if the driller tells you he 'needs to go deeper' when you already have sufficient volume for your needs, he only means "deeper into your pockets".

Although dowers and drillers can (and will) disagree, it's always best to keep a truce, put the ego's aside, and work in the best interests of the client.

A brief meeting before drilling begins to let the driller know at what depths you expect to find water may lead to a friendly wager, *if* the driller does as you suggest.

Tact, especially during times of tension, usually pays dividends down the road.

If you're not willing  
to take a risk,  
and you're not willing to fail,  
then you're not a dowser.  
Believe in yourself!

## Part 8

### Summary

Learning to dowse is unlike developing any other skill. If you have never dowsed before, finding a water well is a challenging task but do not be discouraged. It is suggested that new (and even semi-experienced) dowsers practice on simple, tangible targets first, before attempting to dowse a well.

Simple exercises are wonderful training aids and confidence builders. Dowsing the direction and distance to surface coins in a park or parking lot, locating the water and sewer lines going to/from your house, and counting pocket change are a few examples, but all forms of tangible target practice will add to your confidence and skill.

Then, when, when you feel sufficiently accomplished, *look for a shallow vein of flowing water less than a foot or two deep* in your backyard or a secluded area nearby. A few shovelfuls of dirt will either prove or disprove your location.

## Ten Things To Remember About Dowsing

1. Dowsing is a mental ability that everyone possesses. You can do it!
2. The mind must be clear and balanced before and during the dowsing process.
3. Relax and allow. Dowsing works *through* you. *Trying* blocks progress.
4. Write down your questions. Be specific. **Be logical. Be thorough.**
5. Know your instruments and their codes. **Know what's** your mind is telling you.
6. Return to the search position after each question **has** been answered.
7. Focus and visualize. **M**aintain clarity of your goal.
8. Double check by asking: "Am I correct in stating...?"  
But, don't overdo.
9. Be gentle with yourself. Learn the lesson and move on.
10. When in doubt - don't. You could make an expensive error. Be certain.

But most of all - enjoy the dowsing experience!



## Further Information

The American Society of Dowsers Inc.  
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<http://www.dowsers.org>

The Canadian Society of Dowsers  
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## A Dowsers' Series

A Dowsers' Series was initiated in 1992 to provide basic information on dowsing. This series offers one person's viewpoint on various facets and applications of the dowsing art. The author welcomes comments and suggestions.

Greg Storozuk has over 33 years of dowsing experience. He has been a professional dowsing since 1982. He was a Tactical Response Specialist and President of the American Tactical Response Team. He received numerous commendations.

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