

A failed well pump never picks a convenient time. Water pressure drops in the middle of a shower, the washing machine stalls half-full, and within minutes the whole house is running on panic instead of water. Out in the country, there's no municipal backup and no easy workaround. When a private well stops delivering, daily life gets disrupted fast.

A few months ago, I spoke with **Elias Markovic**, 41, a high school ag teacher, and his wife **Nina Markovic**, 39, a veterinary technician, who live on 12 acres outside Miles City, Montana with their kids **Soren** (11) and **Mila** (7). Their 214-foot well had a worn-out 1 HP **Red Lion** unit that had been struggling with pressure swings, gritty water, and constant short-cycling. The final straw came during a cold Saturday morning when the pump quit entirely and left the family without water for nearly 18 hours. What looked like "just a bad pump" turned out to be a mix of wrong sizing, abrasive sand wear, and an aging pressure setup.

That kind of story is exactly why this list matters. Owning a **myers well pump** or shopping for one should not feel like guesswork. Below, I'll walk through the seven things that prevent nasty surprises: choosing the right size, understanding **2-wire configuration** versus **3-wire configuration**, paying attention to materials, protecting the motor, watching pressure tank behavior, planning for serviceability, and getting real value from a premium pump. If you depend on a private well every single day, this is the practical side of pump ownership that saves money, downtime, and frustration.

#1. Start With Correct Sizing - Match Well Depth, TDH, and GPM Rating Before You Buy a Myers Pump

Most pump problems I see are not brand failures at all—they start with bad sizing decisions that force a good pump to work in the wrong part of the curve.

A **submersible well pump** has to be matched to your **TDH (total dynamic head)**, household demand, pressure setting, and well recovery rate. For a home with two bathrooms, laundry, and outdoor spigots, a practical target is often 8-12 GPM. But flow alone means nothing if the pump also has to lift water from 180, 220, or 300 feet and still deliver usable pressure at the tank. That's where a proper **pump curve** matters. A **Myers Pumps Predator Plus Series** model is available in multiple **stages**, horsepower ratings, and head ranges, so you can size for the actual job instead of settling for a one-size-fits-all option.

For the Markovic family, the old unit was delivering weak performance because the previous installer focused on horsepower only. Their 214-foot well, pressure switch settings, and friction loss through the **drop pipe** called for a different pump curve than the one they had.

Know Your Real Head Requirements

Static water level, pumping water level, tank pressure, and pipe friction all add up. If your water level sits at 140 feet but drops to 175 feet under load, and you want 50 PSI at the house, the pump must overcome much more than "well depth." Add friction loss through pipe, fittings, and the **pitless adapter**, and your total head can climb quickly.

My rule in the field is simple: never size off depth alone. A 1 HP pump in one 200-foot well can be perfect, while the same rating in another property can shortfall badly if the pressure requirement or lateral run is higher. That's why **myers water well pumps** earn respect with contractors—they offer enough model variety to actually fit the application.

Rick's Recommendation on Household GPM

A family of four usually does well with 8-12 GPM unless irrigation, livestock, or large soaking tubs raise the demand. More GPM isn't always better. Oversized pumps can cause rapid cycling, extra heat, and premature pressure tank wear.

Elias Markovic assumed he needed "the biggest pump that fits." What he really needed was the right curve: a **1 HP** multi-stage **myers water pump** sized for his depth and pressure range. Once that was corrected, pressure stabilized and runtime improved immediately. Proper sizing is the first surprise-prevention tool I recommend to every PSAM customer.

#2. Prioritize Stainless Construction - 300 Series Stainless Steel Beats Corrosion and Pressure Cycling

Water chemistry chews through weak pump materials faster than most homeowners realize. Iron, mild acidity, and mineral-heavy groundwater are hard on cheap internal parts.

One of the biggest advantages in the **Predator Plus Series** is its **300 series stainless steel** construction. That includes the shell, shaft, coupling, wear ring, discharge bowl, and suction screen. In a deep-well environment, that matters because corrosion doesn't just make a pump look rough—it changes tolerances, reduces efficiency, and shortens service life. Stainless components hold alignment better, resist pitting, and handle years of immersion far better than lower-grade materials.

Here's where the comparison becomes real. **Goulds Pumps** still have loyal users, but in water conditions with high mineral content or mildly acidic pH, cast components can become the weak link over time. **Red Lion** models with lighter-duty housings may work in entry-level applications, but they do not offer the same structural confidence when repeated pressure swings and seasonal load changes are part of the picture. A **Myers** assembly built around stainless construction gives rural owners a better long-term defense against corrosion and fatigue. Fewer rust-related failures, fewer service calls, and fewer surprise replacements make that upgrade worth every single penny.

The Markovic well had visible mineral staining and fine abrasive content. That's exactly the kind of environment where premium materials pay back their cost.

Why Stainless Matters Below Grade

A pump in a 4-inch well casing lives in a harsh place: submerged, pressurized, and often exposed to dissolved minerals year-round. **Corrosion resistant** materials are not a luxury here. Stainless surfaces resist scale adhesion better than rougher cast finishes, and that helps preserve performance over time.

When internal components maintain their dimensions, the pump stays closer to its intended efficiency range. That means better pressure consistency and lower strain on the motor. It also means fewer seized fasteners and fewer ugly surprises when a contractor pulls the pump years later for inspection.

Long-Term Ownership Value

I've pulled plenty of pumps that "still ran" but were worn enough internally to waste energy and deliver poor pressure. Owners usually blame the pressure tank or switch first. Often the root cause is material wear inside the pump stack.

For Nina Markovic, spending more upfront on a stainless **myers pump** made sense once she compared that cost to another early failure, another service truck, and another full day without water. If your well has difficult water chemistry, premium metal construction is not optional—it's smart ownership.

#3. Choose Impeller Design That Handles Grit - Teflon-Impregnated Staging Reduces Abrasion in Multi-Stage Pumps

Sand and grit don't need to be visible in a glass of water to damage a pump. A small amount of abrasive sediment can quietly shorten pump life for years.

Myers addresses that problem with **Teflon-impregnated staging** and **self-lubricating impellers** built from engineered composite materials. In a **multi-stage pump**, each impeller and diffuser set contributes to pressure. If those surfaces wear down from grit, your system slowly loses output and starts running longer to do the same job. That means higher power consumption, extra heat, and accelerated motor stress.

For wells with light sand production or seasonal sediment movement, this feature is a big deal. I've seen deep wells where spring runoff, nearby drilling activity, or fluctuating water levels increase abrasion. A well owner may blame the pressure switch or tank first because the decline is gradual. In reality, worn stages are often the hidden culprit.

The Markovics had exactly that issue. Their previous pump didn't fail from one dramatic event; it wore down from fine grit until pressure recovery became painfully slow.

How Abrasion Changes Pump Performance

Each stage in a submersible pump depends on close tolerances to build pressure. Once grit opens up those clearances, the pump loses efficiency and takes longer to fill the **pressure tank**. Homeowners notice delayed pressure [Plumbing Supply and More myers pump](#) recovery, longer pump run times, and more frequent starts.

That kind of wear pattern is sneaky because the system may still produce water. It just performs worse every month. By the time the issue becomes obvious, energy use is up and internal damage is already done. Better stage materials buy time and reliability.

Best Use Cases for Grit-Resistant Design

If your well has ever shown fine sediment after heavy use, seasonal drawdown, or new well development, you should pay serious attention to impeller material. Same goes for agricultural or ranch properties where water demand rises sharply during parts of the year.

For Elias Markovic's 214-foot well, grit resistance was one of the reasons I steered him toward a **myers water pump** instead of another budget replacement. In a marginal water-quality situation, tougher internals keep surprises to a minimum.

#4. Don't Ignore the Motor - Pentek XE High-Thrust Performance Protects Efficiency and Service Life

The motor is where many pump owners either save money wisely or waste money repeatedly. A cheap wet end paired with an average motor rarely holds up long under deep-well conditions.

The **Pentek XE motor** used in premium Myers setups is designed for continuous-duty well service, with **thermal overload protection** and **lightning protection** built into the conversation. High-thrust capacity matters because deep-well multi-stage assemblies create axial loads that lesser motors may tolerate for a while but not gracefully. Better motor construction means steadier amperage draw, better heat handling, and longer bearing life.

Here's the plain truth from the field: **Franklin Electric** makes respected equipment, but many of their setups push owners toward proprietary controls and a more brand-tied service path. Myers gives contractors more flexibility with **field serviceable** threaded assemblies and straightforward maintenance access. In practical terms, that

means a qualified installer can often diagnose and repair a Myers setup without chasing specialized parts channels. Add in the robust motor package and the ownership experience becomes simpler, especially in rural areas where waiting on dealer-specific support is a real problem. For a home that cannot afford downtime, that convenience and durability are worth every single penny.

Nina wanted fewer parts headaches as much as she wanted a better pump. That's the kind of ownership detail people forget until a failure happens.

What High-Thrust Means in Real Use

Deep-well pumps build pressure through multiple stacked stages. That stack creates downward and upward forces on the motor shaft system. A high-thrust motor is built to handle that load without wearing prematurely under normal operating conditions.

When the motor is correctly matched to the pump end, startup is smoother, efficiency stays more consistent, and bearings see less abuse. That translates into fewer nuisance trips, lower operating temperature, and a better shot at hitting the 8-15 year range that owners expect from premium equipment.

Electrical Stability Still Matters

Even the best motor can be damaged by poor voltage, improper wire sizing, or bad splices. A 230V deep-well installation must use the right cable gauge for the depth and amperage draw. Undersized wire causes voltage drop, overheating, and early failure.

The Markovic system upgrade included fresh wiring, a proper splice, and a full electrical check. Don't just replace the pump and hope. Protect the motor and your **myers well pump** will reward you for it.

#5. Understand 2-Wire vs 3-Wire - Simpler Configuration Can Lower Cost and Reduce Failure Points

A lot of homeowners get tangled up in wiring choices when the real question is reliability for their specific depth and service conditions.

A **2-wire well pump** contains its starting components in the motor and eliminates the need for an external **control box**. A **3-wire well pump** uses a separate control box, which can make diagnostics easier in some cases but also adds another component that can fail. Myers offers both formats, giving contractors and homeowners flexibility instead of forcing a single approach.

In many residential applications, a **2-wire configuration** is the cleaner answer. Fewer wall-mounted components, fewer points for rodent damage or moisture trouble, and lower initial cost all make sense for a standard home setup. On deeper wells or systems where service access and troubleshooting advantages matter, a **3-wire configuration** can still be the right move.

For the Markovics, a 2-wire setup made sense because their priority was dependable operation with fewer components to babysit in a detached utility area.

When 2-Wire Is the Better Fit

A moderate-to-deep residential well with stable electrical service is often a strong candidate for 2-wire. The simplicity helps emergency buyers too. If your old setup failed and you need water back fast, fewer components can shorten replacement time.

Owners who are not comfortable troubleshooting relays and capacitors usually prefer this route. PSAM customers often choose 2-wire Myers packages for rental homes, primary residences, and straightforward replacement jobs where reliability beats complexity.

When 3-Wire Still Has Value

A 3-wire system can be beneficial when a contractor wants external access to starting components for easier electrical testing. In some service situations, replacing a control box is simpler than pulling a pump.

My advice is not to treat 3-wire as “better” by default. It is simply a different service strategy. Ask what your well depth, motor size, and local service realities call for. A correctly selected **water pump myers** setup in either configuration will outperform a poorly chosen alternative every time.

#6. Watch Pressure Tank Behavior - Short Cycling Destroys Pumps Faster Than Most Owners Expect

A perfectly good pump can be ruined by a bad tank or a poorly adjusted pressure system. That’s one of the costliest ownership mistakes I see.

Short cycling happens when the pump starts and stops too often because the **pressure tank** is waterlogged, undersized, or improperly precharged. Every start creates electrical and mechanical stress. If the system reaches cut-in and cut-out pressure too quickly, the motor accumulates heat and wear that can take years off its life. A pump that should last a decade may struggle to make half that if it’s forced into constant stop-start operation.

This is also where budget comparisons matter. Plenty of homeowners try to save money with entry-level replacements, then wonder why the new unit dies early. Against lower-tier products from **Red Lion** or older cast-heavy setups from **Goulds Pumps**, Myers benefits from a better overall durability package— **300 series stainless steel**, abrasion-resistant staging, and a premium motor. But even the best equipment suffers if the pressure side is neglected. The difference is that a properly installed Myers system gives you a stronger foundation to begin with. Pair it with the right tank drawdown and switch settings, and you get the kind of stable, low-stress operation rural owners count on. That’s exactly why a premium setup sold through PSAM is worth every single penny.

The Markovic family’s old tank was badly undercharged. Fixing that issue was just as important as replacing the pump.



Myers Pump - Convertible Shallow/Deep Well Jet Pump

- ✓ Durable Heavy-Duty Construction
- ✓ Stainless Steel Impeller Wear Ring
- ✓ High Maximum Pressure of 69 psi
- ✓ Adjustable Pressure Switch Settings
- ✓ Double Ball Bearing Motor
- ✓ Energy Efficient Operation



Signs Your Tank Is Hurting the Pump

Rapid clicking at the pressure switch, pressure swings at fixtures, and the pump starting every time a small amount of water is used are classic warnings. Another clue is a tank that sounds completely full or completely solid when tapped.

A basic maintenance check includes verifying the tank's air charge with power off and water drained. Precharge should typically sit 2 PSI below the switch cut-in setting. If your system is 40/60, that means 38 PSI. Ignore that number and you invite trouble.

Right-Sizing the Tank for Better Pump Life

Larger drawdown means fewer starts per day. That's especially helpful for homes with kids, laundry demand, or livestock waterers creating small repetitive draws. Bigger isn't always necessary, but undersizing is a real problem.

For Soren and Mila's busy household, upgrading tank performance smoothed out the whole system. If your **myers water well pumps** investment is going into a weak pressure setup, you're leaving reliability on the table.

#7. Buy for Serviceability and Warranty - Field Repairs and 3-Year Coverage Reduce Ownership Risk

The day you need pump service is the day build quality stops being marketing and starts being money.

Myers earns its reputation by combining a **threaded assembly** design with a strong **3-year warranty** and support backed by **Pentair**. That matters because ownership cost is never just the purchase price. It includes labor, emergency downtime, replacement intervals, and whether a contractor can actually repair the unit in the [water](#)

pump myers field. A pump that has to be completely replaced because one section is not service-friendly is expensive in all the wrong ways.

On the support side, the Myers warranty stands out in a category where many owners are used to shorter coverage windows. I always tell people this: warranty length doesn't matter if the product is weak, but when a durable pump also carries meaningful coverage, your risk drops substantially.

Why Field Serviceability Matters

A **field serviceable** pump gives a qualified contractor more options. Instead of treating the whole assembly as disposable, repairs may focus on the affected section. That can reduce downtime and replacement cost, especially in rural areas where hauling crews and scheduling delays add up fast.

This matters even more for owners who live far from supply houses. The Markovics are not five minutes from town. When your nearest reliable parts source is a drive away, serviceability becomes a practical advantage, not a spec-sheet footnote.

Warranty Value Over the Long Haul

The **3-year warranty** on a premium **myers pump** offers real protection against manufacturing defects and performance issues. Compare that to the shorter coverage many buyers accept without thinking. Over ten years, a better pump with better warranty support often costs less than two or three budget replacements plus labor.

That's the ownership lesson I want rural homeowners to understand: a **myers well pump** is not the cheapest line item, but it is one of the smartest. Fewer surprises, better support, and a stronger path to long service life make it money well spent.

FAQ: Myers Well Pump Ownership Questions I Hear Most Often

1. How do I determine the correct horsepower for my well depth and household water demand?

Horsepower is only one piece of the puzzle. Start with your pumping water level, not just total well depth. Then add pressure requirements at the tank and estimated friction loss through pipe and fittings to calculate **TDH (total dynamic head)**. After that, match the pump's **GPM rating** to your actual household demand. Most standard homes need roughly 8-12 GPM, while irrigation or livestock can push that higher.

A **1/2 HP** or **3/4 HP** unit may work for shallower or lower-demand systems. A **1 HP** or **1.5 HP** setup is more common once wells get deeper or pressure requirements rise. Rick's rule: don't buy by horsepower alone. Use the **pump curve**. Elias Markovic's failed system proved why—a 1 HP nameplate did not mean the pump was right for his 214-foot application. If you want fewer surprises, size the **submersible well pump** to the head and flow it must deliver, not what a neighbor happens to use.

2. What GPM flow rate does a typical household need and how do multi-stage impellers affect pressure?

A typical household usually performs well in the 8-12 GPM range. One-bath homes may get by with less, while larger homes with multiple simultaneous fixtures may benefit from 12-15 GPM. The trick is balancing flow with pressure and well recovery. Too much pump for the well can cause cycling and drawdown problems.

Multi-stage pump design increases pressure by stacking impellers in sequence. Each stage adds energy to the water, which is why deeper wells often rely on more **stages** rather than simply bigger motors. More stages help

maintain pressure at higher head conditions, but only when correctly selected for the application.

That's one reason **myers water well pumps** perform so well in deep residential systems. You can choose a model based on both head and flow rather than making a rough guess. If your fixtures run weak upstairs or the tank takes too long to recover, don't assume you need more horsepower. You may need a different staging design.

3. How does the Myers Predator Plus Series achieve strong hydraulic efficiency compared to competitors?

Efficiency starts with running close to the **best efficiency point (BEP)** on the pump curve. The **Predator Plus Series** helps by offering multiple staging and horsepower combinations so the pump can be matched more precisely to the job. Better alignment between required head and actual pump output reduces wasted energy and unnecessary recirculation inside the pump.

Construction quality matters too. **Engineered composite impellers, Teflon-impregnated staging**, and tight manufacturing tolerances help preserve performance as the pump ages. When the pump is sized correctly and paired with the right **pressure tank**, it runs longer and steadier instead of hammering through short cycles.

I've seen homeowners blame power bills on "old rural wiring" when the real issue was a mismatched pump operating inefficiently for years. A properly selected **myers water pump** can reduce annual operating costs while giving better pressure. That's the kind of efficiency benefit that shows up both at the breaker panel and at the kitchen sink.

4. Why is 300 series stainless steel superior to cast iron for submersible well pumps?

In a submerged environment, **300 series stainless steel** offers better corrosion resistance, cleaner long-term surface condition, and better tolerance to challenging water chemistry. Cast iron can be strong, but it is more vulnerable to rust and mineral attack over time, especially in wells with acidity, dissolved iron, or heavy mineral content.

Corrosion does more than look ugly. It can affect clearances, increase drag, weaken structural parts, and make service work harder years later. Stainless helps maintain pump efficiency and reduces the chances of rust-related deterioration compromising performance. That's especially important in deeper wells where pulling a pump is labor-intensive and expensive.

When owners compare purchase prices only, they miss the bigger picture. Better materials usually mean fewer performance declines, fewer replacement cycles, and less likelihood of surprise failure due to corrosion. That's one of the main reasons I steer serious rural buyers toward a premium **myers pump** instead of treating the well system like an appliance purchase.

5. How do Teflon-impregnated self-lubricating impellers resist sand and grit damage?

Fine grit acts like liquid sandpaper inside a pump. Over time, it wears impeller edges and diffuser surfaces, opening clearances and reducing pressure output. **Teflon-impregnated staging** helps reduce friction and abrasion, while **self-lubricating impellers** built from engineered composites hold up better than weaker materials in lightly abrasive conditions.

This does not mean any pump is invincible in a heavily sandy well. But it does mean the internal components are better equipped to survive real-world sediment exposure. Gradual wear is one of the most common causes of "mystery pressure loss" in aging pumps. Homeowners often notice longer run times long before complete failure.

The Markovic family's old system lost performance slowly because grit had worn down the pump stack. Once replaced with a Myers setup designed for abrasion resistance, recovery time improved and pressure stabilized. If your well has shown fine sediment even occasionally, this feature deserves serious attention.

6. Can I install a Myers submersible pump myself or do I need a licensed contractor?

A skilled DIY owner can handle some parts of a well pump replacement, but I usually recommend a qualified contractor for full pump pulls and installations—especially on deeper wells. A submersible system involves electrical safety, correct wire sizing, waterproof splicing, drop pipe handling, and proper setup of the **check valve**, **pressure switch**, and **pressure tank**. Mistakes are expensive.

Shallow systems and simple control checks are one thing. Pulling a pump from 180 or 220 feet is another. The weight of pipe, water, and cable adds up fast, and damage to the wire or pipe during installation can undo the whole job before the pump ever starts.

That said, owners can absolutely help themselves by understanding the specifications before buying. Know your well depth, casing diameter, voltage, current pressure settings, and desired GPM. If you order through PSAM, get the full setup right the first time. That alone prevents many of the costly problems I see after rushed emergency purchases.

7. What's the difference between 2-wire and 3-wire well pump configurations?

A **2-wire well pump** has its [myers submersible](#) start components inside the motor and does not require an external **control box**. A **3-wire well pump** uses an external box that contains starting components such as capacitors and relays. The right choice depends on the application, service preference, and installer strategy.

For many homes, **2-wire configuration** is simpler and reduces the number of external parts that can fail. It's often attractive for clean residential replacements where owners want a straightforward system. A **3-wire configuration** can make electrical troubleshooting easier in some cases because the control components are accessible above ground.

Neither option is automatically better in every scenario. For the Markovics, 2-wire reduced complexity in a detached utility area. In another property with specific service concerns, I might recommend 3-wire. The main point is to choose based on system needs—not internet folklore. A properly selected **myers well pump** in either format is a dependable solution.

8. How long should I expect a Myers Predator Plus pump to last with proper maintenance?

A premium Myers unit commonly falls into the 8-15 year service range, and in favorable conditions with good maintenance, I've seen systems go much longer. Lifespan depends on water quality, cycling frequency, electrical stability, correct sizing, and whether the pump is operating near its intended duty range.

A deep-well system that is oversized, under-ventilated electrically, or paired with a failing tank may die early regardless of brand. On the other hand, a properly sized pump with clean power, stable pressure control, and sensible usage patterns has a much better chance of long life.

Annual checks on tank precharge, pressure switch behavior, and unusual changes in runtime go a long way. If your water suddenly contains more sediment, pressure recovery slows, or breaker behavior changes, investigate early. A **myers pump** rewards preventative attention better than a wait-until-it-fails approach. That's how owners move from emergency replacement mode to predictable, low-drama pump ownership.

Conclusion: Fewer Surprises Come From Better Pump Choices Up Front

Reliable well water is never an accident. It comes from correct sizing, durable materials, a strong motor, smart wiring choices, stable pressure tank performance, and a pump design that can actually be serviced when needed.

That's why I keep recommending **Myers Pumps** through PSAM. A quality **myers water well pumps** package gives homeowners and contractors what matters most: **300 series stainless steel**, grit-resistant staging, the proven **Pentek XE motor**, flexible wiring options, and a meaningful **3-year warranty** backed by **Pentair**. Add PSAM's product support and fast shipping, and you've got a practical solution built for real rural water dependence.

Elias and Nina Markovic did not just replace a failed unit—they fixed the root causes behind repeated pressure trouble and early wear. That's the difference between buying another pump and making a better ownership decision.

If your current system is cycling too often, losing pressure, or nearing the end of its life, now is the time to step into a **myers well pump** setup that's built to last. In my book, that kind of reliability is worth every single penny.