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Well Said

Oregon Water Resources
Department

"Well Said" is a production of the Oregon Water Resources Department's Well Construction Program and is designed to inform the public about program activities and other items of interest.

Questions or suggestions concerning this newsletter can be directed to Mike McCord at (503) 378-8455 x283, or by e-mail: michael.l.mccord@wr.d.state.or.us.

News from the Water Resources Department's Well Construction Program

PHOTO LICENSES

The Department is considering including a photo on well constructor's licenses. This idea has been brought up at various times over the past several years. The technology has advanced tremendously in recent years and we feel this would be a good time to revisit the idea. The advantages to a photo license include being able to eliminate confusion in identifying well constructors and having a more professional looking license. The cost would be in the initial acquisition of the equipment and would not affect renewal costs. Photos could be submitted by mailing a picture in, stopping by the Salem office to have your picture taken, or sending a photo as an e-mail attachment. Please contact Mike McCord if you have any comments or ideas regarding this issue.

WELL CONSTRUCTION RULES UPDATE

As you may remember, the Department is currently working with a Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) in an effort to update the well construction rules. Some progress has been made. However, there are still a few issues that need to be resolved. Several subcommittees have been formed to aid the RAC in addressing those issues. It is the desire of the Department to have a draft set of the proposed rules available for public comment sometime this fall. If you have any questions about rules update please contact Mike McCord at (503) 378-8455, ext. 283.

WELL I. D. LABELS

Please remember to discard the well I. D. label when a well is abandoned. Do not reuse the tag. In addition, be sure to record the existing I.D. number on the

new well log whenever a well is either abandoned or altered.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

Under federal and state law any state agency that issues professional, occupational, or recreational licenses or commercial driver's licenses must now require that the social security numbers of such applicants be recorded on any application, including renewals, for a license. The reason for obtaining the social security number is for child support enforcement purposes.

The current law includes well constructor's licenses. You will notice on current applications and the latest round of renewals that we ask those attempting to obtain a drilling license for their social security number. Refusal to give your social security number will be grounds for refusal of license or renewal of license. Your number will remain confidential and will not be used for any purpose other than child support enforcement.

TESTING HEADING EAST?

Contrary to Horace Greeley's advice, the Department is considering having one license testing session in Eastern Oregon each year. It would most likely be the April session and the most likely location is Pendleton. Please contact Mike McCord if you have any questions about this proposal. We would like to know how many people are in favor of the Department pursuing this further.

WELL TRIVIA

In which four counties were the most new water supply wells drilled in 1999? (answer on page two)

LICENSE RENEWALS

It is time again for license renewals! Renewal notices went out mid-February to all constructors whose license expires on June 30, 2000. A second notice has also gone out to those who had not yet renewed. If you have moved or changed place of employment please contact the Licensing and Compliance Officer at (503) 378-8455 ext. 218 with your current address information.

STAFF CHANGES

Adam Sussman is now the Enforcement Section Manager. He replaces Dave Jarrett who is now the Northwest Region manager. Adam has been with the Department for about 8 1/2 years. He has spent time working in the Department's Resource Management Division, Northwest Region and in the water rights section. For the past 4 years Adam has been working on resolving water right protests and when necessary representing the Department in contested case hearings. Roger Wright is now overseeing the well I. D. tag program. Please contact Roger if you need tags or have any questions regarding well I. D. tags. Roger can be reached at extension 260. Lastly, Tracy Eichenlaub will be serving as the Assistant Watermaster for District 16 through October. If you have questions concerning licensing or bonding please continue to call (503) 378-8455, ext. 218 and someone will answer your question or otherwise assist you.

WELL LOGS

A friendly reminder to please be sure your well logs are complete before you send them in. No one likes getting a well log back for

completion, nor do we like sending them back. The more common items forgotten lately are: incomplete information about borehole construction, amount and type of seal material in sacks or pounds, tax lot number, date started and completed construction, and maps with Monitor Well Reports and Geotechnical Hole Reports. Thank you all for your cooperation.

GRID UPDATE

The Department is preparing to release new software for electronically submitting well logs. The projected release date is June 12, 2000. The new software will simplify the process and provide for several enhancements over the current product. Since this is a major upgrade, the old software will be disabled by some of the changes that will take place. For well log access only, we are planning to upgrade the web site and encourage more people to use the CD-ROM distribution. For more information on all of these projects visit the Department's web site and look under the Well Log Access link.

1999 WELL CONSTRUCTION NUMBERS

New Construction:	
Water Wells	4672
Monitor Wells	1184
Geotechnical Holes	4871
Abandonments	1286
Alterations	645
Deepenings	328

New Water Wells by Region:

Northwest	52%
Southwest	21%

South - Central	16%
North - Central	5%
Eastern	5%

Well Inspections:

New Well Inspect. 2480
% of New Wells Ins. 45%

WRD Watermaster Fax Numbers

There have been some changes in watermaster districts and office locations. Below is a current list of the district offices and the fax numbers. A current district map is attached for reference.

Dist.	Fax Number
01 Tillamook	503 842-3680
02 Springfield	541 746-1861
03 The Dalles	541 298-2459
04 Canyon City	541 575-2248
05 Pendleton	541 278-0287
06 La Grande	541 963-9637
08 Baker City	541 523-7866
09 Vale	541 473-5522
10 Burns	541 573-8311
11 Bend	541 388-5101
12 Lakeview	541 947-6063
13 Medford	541 776-7189
14 Grants Pass	541 471-2876
15 Roseburg	541 440-6264
16 Salem	503 378-6203
17 Klamath Falls	541 885-3324
18 Hillsboro	503 693-4887
19 Coquille	541 396-6233
20 Oregon City	503 657-2188
21 Condon	541 384-2167

Bold Indicates Regional Office

Please circulate this information with others in your organization.

Trivia Answer:

Lane County, 468
Deschutes County, 450
Clackamas County, 277
Jackson County, 267
