

Well Said

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News from the Water Resources Department's Well Construction Program

Page 1

Rule update

Page 2

Well Log Information

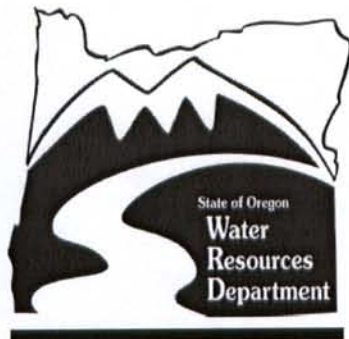
Photo Licenses

Continuing Education

Monitoring Well Maps

Signing the Well Report (log)

Please share with others in your organization



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 drilling industry and 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@wrp.state.or.us.

**WELL CONSTRUCTION
RULES UPDATE**

At its September 24, 2001 meeting, the Water Resources Commission adopted new well construction rules. As you may recall, the Department has been working with a Rules Advisory Committee for several years to develop revised rules. The new rules will become effective as soon as they are filed with the Secretary of State. This should be done by the end of October. All drillers licensed in Oregon will receive a copy of the new rules once they are in effect if we have a current mailing address. The rules will also be available on the Department's website. For the most part, there are no changes in the new rules that directly affect how most wells are constructed. Both water supply well and monitoring well rules were revised. Among other things, the revised rules:

- ▶ **Update figures, tables, and appendices**
 - ▶ **Require that a copy of all start cards be sent to the Department in Salem**
 - ▶ **Clarify the experience required to obtain a well constructor license**
 - ▶ **Spell out the well identification label requirements**
 - ▶ **Require static water levels before and after deepening of wells**
 - ▶ **Replace one and five year licenses with two year licenses, consistent with new legislation**
 - ▶ **Require landowners to maintain well setbacks on their property**
 - ▶ **Reorganize the rules and make the monitoring well rules "stand alone"**
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- ▶ **Clarify the process for special standard approval**
 - ▶ **Allow direct push monitoring wells under certain conditions without special standards**
 - ▶ **Require lockable caps and locks on monitoring wells**
 - ▶ **Require start cards that were formerly sent to the Watermaster office will now be sent to the Region office**

In addition to these changes, there are numerous other minor changes made to the rules. A more detailed list of changes to the rules will be distributed with the rules. The Department strongly recommends that you read the rules thoroughly once you have received a copy. If you have questions about the new rules or are not a licensed well constructor and wish to obtain a copy of the new rules please contact Mike McCord at (503) 378-

8455, extension 283.

WELL LOG INFORMATION

If the Department receives an incomplete well log, it will be sent back to the bonded driller for completion. It is important that the requested information be written on the well log itself, not on post-it-note or some other piece of paper. If the requested information is not noted on the log, it will be sent back again, because the Department cannot make changes to a document that bonded well drillers are required by law to submit.

PHOTO LICENSES

The Department now has a printer capable of producing well constructor licenses with a photo. We began issuing the reformatted photo well constructor licenses in September. The reformatted licenses are very similar to those carried by electricians and plumbers. In addition to being smaller, they are also more durable and will probably stand up to several washings. Please be prepared for us to request a passport type picture of you next time your license is up for renewal. A great way to do this would be to make arrangements to stop by any of the Department's region offices and have us take your picture. A passport quality photograph may also be sent to the Department by regular mail or email. If you have any questions regarding licensing please contact Tracy Eichenlaub at (503) 378-8455 extension 218.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UPDATE

Senate Bill 579 was signed into law June 21, 2001. A letter describing the main points of this law was sent to all licensed well constructors on September 14, 2001. To recap, among other things, Senate Bill 579 changes the term of a well constructor license from one or five years to two years and it changes the licensing and renewal fee to \$150. This means that anyone who obtains a new license now will receive a two-year license for \$150 and the next time you renew your license, it will be for two years and cost \$150.

The bill also requires that the Department "adopt a single water well constructor' license that may specify the type of well, type of well alteration or construction or type of well drilling machine operation for which the water well constructor is qualified." This has to be accomplished by July 1, 2006.

The bill also requires that all well constructors have continuing education credits to renew a license that expires on or after June 30, 2005. The bill requires a maximum of 14 continuing education credits for renewal. The bill also establishes a Well Constructors Continuing Education Committee that will oversee the program and, in conjunction with the Department, develop rules for the continuing education program. Our letter of

September 14, 2001, solicited names of well constructors interested in serving on this committee. We will now be contacting those individuals who expressed an interest and selecting the committee members.

We look forward to working with you regarding this new program. Stay tuned for further information on the subject of continuing education.

MONITORING WELL MAPS

The Department greatly appreciates it when a site map is included with the start card. However, this map does not take the place of the site map that is required to be submitted with the well log or geotechnical hole report. Please remember that the map(s) need to be legible and clearly show which log or report corresponds with what is shown on the map. Start card numbers, well identification numbers, or company job numbers are an effective way of doing this.

WHO IS REQUIRED TO SIGN THE LOG?

OAR 690-205-0080 and OAR 690-240-0095 both state that the well log shall be certified as correct by signature of the water/monitoring well constructor constructing the well. The completed log shall also be certified by the bonded water/monitoring well constructor responsible for construction of the well. If an unbonded licensed driller constructs, abandons, alters, or repairs a well they need to sign and certify their work on the well log. In addition, the

bonded well constructor must also
sign and certify their work on the
well log.
