

News from the Water Resources Department's Well Construction and Compliance Section

OREGON WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

On September 22, 2016, the Oregon Senate confirmed Governor Brown's appointees, Meg Reeves from Corvallis and Eric Quaempts from Adams, to the Oregon Water Resources Commission. Reeves, who recently retired as General Counsel of Oregon State University, will serve in the West Side-at-Large position. Quaempts, who is the Natural Resources Director for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, will serve in the North Central Region position.



Commissioners Reeves and Quaempts will attend their first Commission meeting in Medford on October 13, 2016.

The Water Resources Commission is a seven-member citizen panel that sets water resources policy for the state. Commission members serve four-year terms, are appointed by the Governor and must be confirmed by the Oregon Senate. A Commission member is appointed from each of the five regional river basin areas, with two members selected from the state at large.

The Water Resources Department administers statewide water law through the rules and policies set by the Commission.

NEW WELL CONSTRUCTION RULES ADOPTED **SEE PAGE 3** 



MEET THE WELL LOG REVIEW COORDINATOR

In March 2013, Buffy Gillis joined the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) in the Well Construction and Compliance Section (WCC). A proud Oregon State Beaver, Buffy received her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from OSU. Upon graduation, she worked as assistant to the Director of Student Support Services at OSU while continuing to attend classes as a post-baccalaureate student majoring in Health Management & Policy and Spanish. Following this position, Buffy became one of a handful of people in the Office of Admissions at OSU who processed thousands of domestic undergrad applications in order to determine eligibility for admission. The required attention to detail, heavy work-load, and compliance with Oregon Statutes and Rules helped to make for a smooth transition to OWRD.

Here in WCC, her duties consist primarily of reviewing well logs for accuracy and completeness, preparing geotechnical hole invoices, processing well log amendments and responding to customer e-mails and phone calls. Buffy finds the most enjoyable aspect of her position to be forming quality work relationships with the well drillers and assisting them in any way that she is able. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, concerts, playing with her 5 year- old grandson, and hanging out with her three cats: Allie, Barry and Mr. Stubbs.

Questions regarding well log amendments, e-filing well logs, mapping or geotechnical hole invoices should be directed to Buffy Gillis at (503) 986-0850 or Buffy.M.Gillis@wrdd.state.or.us.

ARTICLES

Page 1 Water Resources Commission Welcomes New Members; Meet the Well Log Review Coordinator

Page 3 New Well Construction Rules Adopted

Page 2 OGWA Fall Conference; Continuing Education Committee; Mapping Resources

Page 4 Motor Vehicle Safety

OGWA FALL CONVENTION

Convention

The Oregon Groundwater Association's Fall Convention will be at the Eagle Crest Resort in Redmond on Friday, October 14, and Saturday, October 15, 2016. The Water Resources Department will be presenting information regarding the state of groundwater, water level measuring, well alterations, and online mapping. Continuing education credits in the rules category are proposed to be assigned to the documented attendees of these presentations. A total of two continuing education credits in the rules category are required during each two-year licensing period. Questions about the continuing education program should be directed to Laurie Norton at (503) 986-0856 or by e-mail at Laurie.K.Norton@wrdd.state.or.us.

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

NEWS

After serving as Vice Chairman of the Continuing Education Committee since December of 2014, Warren McCann recently announced his departure from the committee. The Water Resources Department would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank Warren for his participation and valuable insight while serving as a member. The Department wishes Warren great success in the future.

To fill the empty seat on the Committee, the Oregon Water Resources Department is soliciting letters of interest from anyone in the drilling community who is interested in becoming a member. As a reminder, the Continuing Education Committee is a four-member body appointed by the Director. The Committee is comprised of three individuals from the well drilling industry and one person from the regulatory community. The term of office for each member is three years. At this time, there is one position open on the Committee. The successful applicant will complete a current term that expires June 30, 2018.

If you hold a Well Constructor's License, reside in Oregon and are interested in the position, **please submit a letter of interest** to Thomas M. Byler, Director, Oregon Water Resources Department, 725 Summer St NE, Suite A, Salem Oregon 97301-1266. The Committee meets approximately four times a year to review and approve continuing education courses and assign continuing education credits. Letters of interest will be accepted until November 1, 2016.

Questions about the Continuing Education Committee or continuing education credits should be directed to Laurie Norton at (503) 986-0856 or by e-mail at Laurie.K.Norton@wrdd.state.or.us.

MAPPING RESOURCES

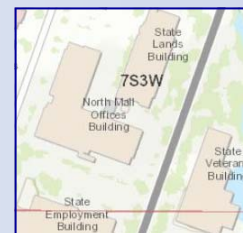


Oregon Water Resources Department
Water Rights Mapping Tool

The Groundwater Use Recording Program, as a component of Well Construction and Compliance (WCC), supplies landowners with a map of their tax lot so that they may identify the location of the newly constructed well on their property. Previously, the Department asked landowners to either provide their own map or use the mapping tool on the OWRD website. In order to make this process simpler, WCC now sends a map with the first invoice. Once this map has been received back from the landowner, it is then uploaded into the well log database and made available to the public.

If any portion of the legal description is incorrect on the well log (street of well, TRS, QQ/Q or tax lot number), the resulting map is incorrect. At this point, the driller may be contacted by the landowner or the Department requesting corrections. There are several resources available to assist constructors in providing accurate location information:

- Contact the appropriate County Assessor's office
- Provide GPS coordinates on the well log
- Use the Mapping Tool available to e-filed logs
- Mapping resources located on the OWRD homepage:
 - <http://apps.wrdd.state.or.us/apps/gis/wr/Default.aspx>
 - <http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/pages/MAPS/index.aspx>



Also, please feel free to contact either Buffy Gillis at 503-986-0850 (Buffy.M.Gillis@wrdd.state.or.us) or Ladeena Bell at 503-986-0854 (Ladeena.K.Bell@wrdd.state.or.us) for assistance with mapping issues.





NEW WELL CONSTRUCTION RULES ADOPTED

At its August 18, 2016 meeting, the Oregon Water Resources Commission adopted new Administrative Rules related to well construction. The new rules became effective on September 6, 2016 and include the following changes and additions:

- A Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) reading is now required on **all** well reports.
- Nylon straps (zip ties) may no longer be used to attach well identification labels to water supply wells or above grade monitoring wells.
- Changes and additions to the definitions include:
 - The term “confining formation” was changed to “confining interval”.
 - A definition for “petroleum” was added.
 - A definition for “Wet Soil Monitoring Hole” was added.
- Additional setback standards for water supply wells were added:
 - Water supply wells must be a minimum distance of **25 feet** from an underground or aboveground petroleum storage tank that is used for domestic purposes.
 - Water supply wells must be a minimum distance of **50 feet** from an underground or aboveground petroleum storage tank that is used for commercial purposes.
 - A recommendation was added for property owners to maintain a **20-foot** setback between their water supply well and power poles for drilling machine access.
- If the under-reaming method is used to seal a water supply well, then the lower under-reamed drillhole and seal must now extend a minimum of **15 feet**.
- Wet Soil Monitoring Holes were added to the Geotechnical Hole construction standards.
- Construction and abandonment requirements for geotechnical holes were clarified.
- The requirements for monitoring wells and piezometers installed using direct push technology were modified:
 - Required oversize borehole diameter has increased from one-inch to two-inches.
 - Wells that extend deeper than **30 feet** shall have centralizers installed.
 - Wells larger than two inches in diameter may only be installed with prior Department approval.



These Rules were developed in conjunction with a Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) that included water supply well constructors, monitoring well constructors, consultants, landowners, OWRD, and other natural resource agencies. The RAC met throughout the summer of 2016 to develop the rules.

The Department would like to thank everyone for their input, hard work and time commitment that made these rules possible. Copies of the new rules will be mailed out to all licensed well constructors.

Copies of the changes are available now on our website at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/LAW/docslawCh690Div200-240Final2016.pdf>.

Questions about the new rules should be directed to Joel Jeffery at (503) 986-0852 or Joel.W.Jeffery@wrdd.state.or.us.

WELL SAID NEWSLETTER

Available on the web at www.oregon.gov/owrd/pages/gw/forms.aspx. Please share with others at your organization.

Well Said is a production of the Oregon Water Resources Department's Well Construction & Compliance Section and is designed to inform the drilling industry and the public about program activities and other items of interest.

Questions or suggestions about this newsletter may be directed to Kristopher Byrd at (503) 986-0851 or Kristopher.R.Byrd@wrdd.state.or.us



For Well Construction & Compliance resources, log onto http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/Pages/gw/wcc_index.aspx

MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY

As Oregon's winter weather driving conditions approach, it is important as an employer and as an employee, to keep motor vehicle safety in mind. Between 2010 and 2014, 136 people covered by the Oregon workers' compensation system died on the job. Motor vehicles accounted for 38 percent of those deaths.

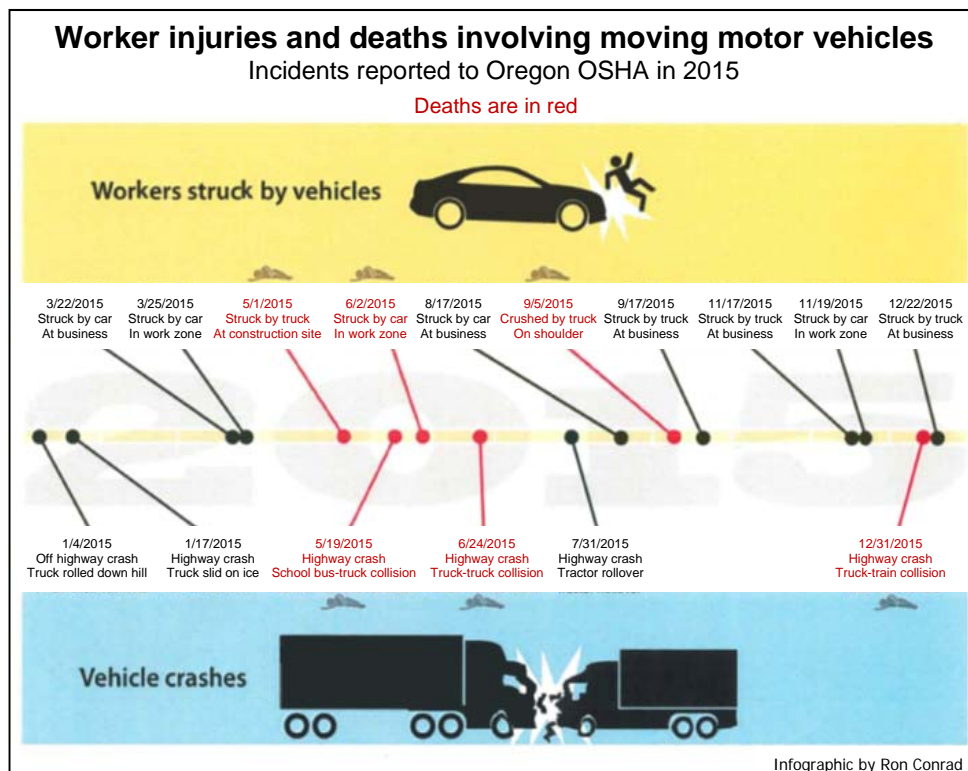
A variety of government agencies play a part in enforcing the rules of the road. Oregon OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Division) focuses on helping employers develop effective driver safety programs. It also enforces several work-related motor vehicle rules, including: use of seat belts, driver qualifications, and securing cargo.

According to experts, the following tips should be considered in the development of an effective driver safety program:

- Develop a written vehicle safety program
- Check employees' driving records
- Keep vehicles properly maintained
- Reward good performance and discipline poor performance
- Invest in education and training
- Know the laws and rules.
- Adjust speed to local conditions

Safety FIRST!

On the federal level the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has conducted research on work-related motor vehicle safety for years, and in 2010 developed the Center for Motor Vehicle Safety. The centers' five-year plan includes: providing evidence-based assessments of extended driving and sleeplessness on motor vehicle crashes; implementing engineering technology based solutions, so that prevention does not simply depend on drivers, and developing a guide to help organizations recognize the economic benefits of carrying out a comprehensive motor vehicle safety program.



Article source: Oregon OSHA Health and Safety Resource Publication, February-March 2016 Volume 44 – Online.



"Serving the public by practicing and promoting responsible water management."



PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD



A recently discovered dug well that has since been permanently decommissioned.



Welding rods and a **boot** recently discovered in the annular space of an old well being repaired.

Elk Removed From Well

Cow elk recently tranquilized and removed **unharm**ed from a dug well in Southern Oregon.



(Photo courtesy of Oregon State Police)



A dangerous dug well discovered across the street from an apartment complex in a field where local kids were observed playing.



WCC: "Protecting water resources through appropriate prevention and enforcement."





WELL CONSTRUCTION & COMPLIANCE SECTION
OREGON WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
725 SUMMER ST NE, SUITE A
SALEM, OR 97301

Well Construction & Compliance Staff Directory

Kristopher Byrd, Manager
Kristopher.R.Byrd@wrd.state.or.us
(503) 986-0851

Joel Jeffery, Coordinator,
Well Construction Program
Joel.W.Jeffery@wrd.state.or.us
(503) 986-0852

Laurie Norton, License and
Compliance Specialist
Laurie.K.Norton@wrd.state.or.us
(503) 986-0856

Ladeena Bell, Well ID
Program Coordinator
Ladeena.K.Bell@wrd.state.or.us
(503) 986-0854

Buffy Gillis, Well Log
Review Coordinator
Buffy.M.Gillis@wrd.state.or.us
(503) 986-0850

Scott Kudlemyer, Exempt Use
Program Coordinator
Scott.B.Kudlemyer@wrd.state.or.us
(503) 986-0861

Enforcement Section Fax
(503) 986-0902

Region Office Directory

Western
Phone: (503) 986-0900
Fax: (503) 986-0903

Southwest
Phone: (541) 774-6880
Fax: (541) 774-6187

South Central
Phone: (541) 306-6885
Fax: (541) 388-5101

North Central
Phone: (541) 278-5456
Fax: (541) 278-0287

Eastern
Phone: (541) 523-8224 x231
Fax: (541) 550-3898