WELL SAID Newsletter

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

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WELL SAID NEWSLETTER

Available on the web at
OWRD home page, under
Agency Spotlight >
Well Said Newsletter.
Please share with others at
your organization.
Well Said is a production of
the OWRD 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) 991-2470 or email at Kristopher.R.Byrd@oregon.gov



Serving the public by practicing and promoting responsible water management.

MEET NIKKI HENDRICKS

The Well Construction & Compliance Section would like to introduce Nikki Hendricks, District 1 Watermaster in the Tillamook office. Nikki was born and raised in a small Oregon town and worked her way through college doing outdoor seasonal recreational guiding and field work with tour companies and the US Forest Service. After earning her Associates in Forestry from Chemeketa Community College, she moved to Bend to work at Mt. Bachelor and attend Oregon State University's new extension campus where she was part of the first graduating class, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resource Management with a focus in Policy.



Nikki's first job out of college was in the Hillsboro Watermaster office as a hydrologic technician. When the recession hit and funding cuts sent her bouncing from job to job, she found herself working as a Water Quality Technician for the City of Salem, Oregon Water Resources Department in both the Hydrographics and Transfers Sections, and WEST Consultants as a hydrologist. Not much for city life, Nikki then took a hiatus to live a snowboarder's dream in the mountains of Colorado. However, a true Oregonian at heart, she returned home where she accepted a position at OWRD as the Southwest Region Hydrologic Technician out of the Medford office. While Oregon is in her heart, the southern Oregon heat is not, so she applied for a Watermaster position in Tillamook which also allows her to be close to family, friends and temperate weather.

Ms. Hendricks states that she's been happy in her Watermaster position for the last 6 years and enjoys living close to the beach with her two beautiful dogs. In Nikki's off-time you're most likely to find her with great friends experiencing all that Oregon has to offer, with her favorite activities being snowboarding, visiting hot springs, roller skating, mountain biking and rafting.

Questions for Ms. Hendricks regarding District 1 should be directed to (503) 815-1967 or Nikki.M.Hendricks@oregon.gov.

FREE DOMESTIC WELL TESTING FOR WILDFIRE – IMPACTED HOMES



The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is providing free well water testing vouchers to private or "domestic" well users impacted by the 2020 Oregon wildfires. Applications will be accepted through May 15, 2021 at https://go.usa.gov/xAycC.

Vouchers cover the cost of testing for bacteria, nitrates, arsenic, and lead. Depending on <u>well damage</u>, some may also qualify to test for benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene as well. Sample collection costs are not covered by OHA. Here are links to flyers: <u>Wildfire-Impacted Wells Project Flyer (English)</u> and <u>Wildfire-Impacted Wells Project Flyer (Spanish)</u>.

Continued on Page 2



OWRD phone numbers have changed!

Be sure to check out the special insert page!

Free Well Testing, cont'd



Voucher Eligibility —

All of the following criteria must be met:

- The property was impacted by the 2020 wildfires.
- The well water is used for things like drinking, bathing, cooking and washing dishes.
- The well has 3 or fewer connections and is not part of a regulated water system.

Priority —

If demand exceeds supply, OHA will prioritize for:

- Households that meet certain income thresholds.
- Communities that have been historically underserved, including people of color.
- Properties that had the greatest damage.
- Second homes or vacation rental homes will not be prioritized, but may qualify.

After a fire, testing the well for contaminants is an important step to assuring homes have access to safe water. If test results indicate high levels of contaminants, OHA will provide safety information and recommendations to the well user, however OHA does not regulate private wells.

Please pass this information on to community members and partners who may be eligible, particularly reach out to well-users who identify as a person of color, person with disability, person with low-income, or person with limited English language proficiency.

Contact Oregon Health Authority at (971) 673-0440 or domestic.wells@dhsoha.state.or.us for questions.

WELL CONSTRUCTOR LICENSE RENEWALS FOR 2021

Well constructor licenses last renewed in 2019 are up for renewal again on June 30, 2021. The fee for a two-year water supply or monitoring well license renewal is \$150.00.

As a reminder, a minimum of **14** continuing education credits (CECs) are required to renew your license. Of the 14 credits, a minimum of **two** credits must be in Oregon Rules and Regulations.

For those who were unable to acquire CECs in Oregon Rules prior to the pandemic, you may take the rules course online here: http://apps.wrd.state.or.us/apps/gw/cec rules course/. Use the same login credentials that you use for electronic submittal of well logs and Start Cards. Unfortunately, online payment for the course is not available; please mail in the invoice and payment to OWRD's Salem office.

If you already have all 14 CECs, you may renew your license online here: https://apps.wrd.state.or.us/apps/gw/well-license-renewal/secure/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=/apps/gw/well-license-renewal/secure

Questions related to CECs or license renewals may be directed to Buffy Madrigal-Adams at (971) 287-8305 or Buffy.M.Madrigal-Adams@oregon.gov.

WILDFIRE-IMPACTED WELL OWNERS REACH OUT TO OWRD

Along with destroying homes and businesses, last year's wildfires also damaged wells. In fact, the department has received approximately 39 calls from landowners and contractors around the state looking for well reports and seeking advice on how to best assess the damage and get their wells repaired.

So which fires are people calling about?

• Holiday Farm: 15

• Beachie Creek/Lionshead: 13

• Almeda Drive: 5

• Echo Mountain: 2

- Dowty Rd: 1
- Riverside: 1
- Archie Creek: 1
- Unidentified: 1

The department expects these calls to continue as the weather warms up and people begin to restore damaged property and repair, replace, or abandon their wells damaged by wildfire. If drilling contractors come across a well owner with wildfire damage in need of help, they are encouraged to send them our way as we are happy to assist them in tracking down well reports and in answering any well construction questions they may have.

For help locating **well reports**, please contact Ladeena Ashley at <u>Ladeena.K.Ashley@oregon.gov</u> or (971) 287-8218. Questions about **well construction** should be directed to Travis Kelly at <u>Travis.N.Kelly@oregon.gov</u> or (503) 302-8618.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION WELL INSPECTOR COVERAGE

As noted in the previous edition of the Well Said, the North Central Region Well Inspector position remains vacant while the Department continues with recruitment activities. During the vacancy, Tommy Laird, NW Region Well Inspector, and Jon Sanfilippo, East Region Well Inspector, will be sharing inspection duties in the NC Region.

Tommy will be covering well inspections in Hood and Wasco Counties and may be reached at (971) 304-6798 or at Iommy.K.Laird@oregon.gov.

Jon will be covering well inspections in Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, and Umatilla Counties and may be reached at Jon.D.Sanfilippo@oregon.gov or (971) 599-9762.

The Department would like to thank Tommy & Jon for their teamwork and assistance during the recruitment process.

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CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE SEEKS CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

The Oregon Water Resources Department is soliciting letters of interest from anyone in the drilling community who is interested in becoming a member of the Oregon Well Constructors Continuing Education Committee.

The CE Committee is a four-member body appointed by the Director, and comprised of three individuals from the well drilling industry and one person from the regulatory community. The Committee meets about four times a year to review and approve CE courses and assign CE credits.

Currently two positions are available on the CE Committee, with appointments beginning July 1, 2021. The term of office for each member is three years. The vacancies may be filled by individuals from the well drilling industry who hold a Well Constructor's License, reside in Oregon and are interested in the post.

For those who wish to serve on the committee, please submit a letter of interest to:

Thomas M Byler, Director Oregon Water Resources Department 725 Summer St NE, Suite A Salem OR 97301-1266

Letters of interest will be accepted until April 30, 2021.

For additional information, please contact Buffy Madrigal-Adams at (971) 287-8305 or Buffy.M.Madrigal-Adams@oregon.gov.

OSHA 18TH ANNUAL SAFETY BREAK FOR OREGON — MAY 12 2021

Coordinated by Oregon OSHA, this one-day event is designed to raise awareness and promote the value of workplace safety and health. The activities are determined by individual employers and are flexible to meet the employer's needs.

Join other worksites across Oregon to honor safety leaders, hold a training or start a conversation about safety and health. You can also share ideas, make safety fun, reward safety accomplishments, tell new employees you're serious about safety, support your safety committee, and more.

Find tools and resources to enhance your Safety Break Event at https://osha.oregon.gov/safetybreak/Pages/index.aspx.

For more information contact Aaron Corvin, public information officer, at <u>aaron.corvin@oregon.gov</u> or (971) 718-6973.

Note: Those who participate in Safety Break are expected to follow the appropriate guidance and rules related to COVID-19 in the workplace.



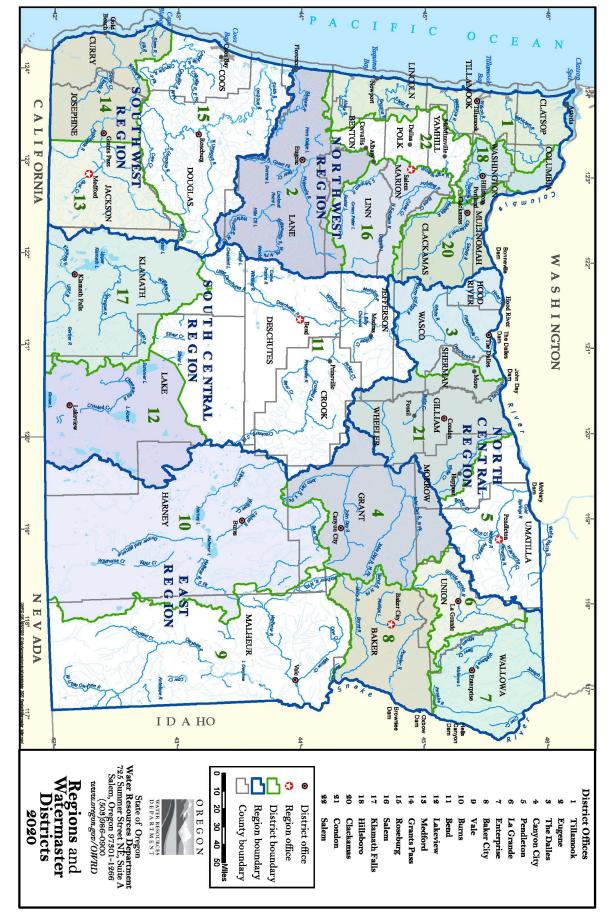
E-COMMERCE START CARD CONVENIENCE FEE

Well constructors that electronically file Start Cards for new wells, deepenings, and conversions may notice a \$1.00 convenience fee now being added to their transactions. This new fee is not directed to the Department, but instead is assessed by NICUSA, Inc., the third-party vendor that provides the Start Card payment processing platform. Because this is a new fee, the Department wanted to let the drilling community know about it as soon as possible. A reminder is also being placed on the e-filing login page for constructors filing documents online.

Questions about e-filing Start Cards should be directed to Buffy Madrigal-Adams at (971) 287-8305 or Buffy.M.Madrigal-Adams@oregon.gov.

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Regional and Watermaster Districts



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Well Inspector Contact List

Name	City, Region	Email	Cell Phone
Ben Thorpe	Medford, SW Region	Benjamin.D.Thorpe@oregon.gov	541-218-5122
Jon Sanfilippo	Baker City, E Region	Jon.D.Sanfilippo@oregon.gov	971-599-9762
Tommy Laird	Salem, NW Region	Tommy.K.Laird@oregon.gov	971-304-6798
Bill Nashem	Bend, SC Region	Bill.D.Nashem@oregon.gov	541-639-4109
-Vacant-	Pendleton, NC Region		

Watermaster Contact List

Dist., City, Region	Watermaster	Email Address	Phone, Fax
1 – Tillamook, NW	Nikki Hendricks	Nikki.M.Hendricks@oregon.gov	503-815-1967
			Fax 503-815-1968
2 – Eugene, NW	Lanaya Blakely	Lanaya.F.Blakely@oregon.gov	541-682-3620
3 – The Dalles, NC	Robert Wood	Robert.L.Wood@oregon.gov	541-506-2652
			Fax 541-506-2651
4 – Canyon City, E	Eric Julsrud	Eric.W.Julsrud@oregon.gov	541-575-0119
			Fax 541-575-0641
5 – Pendleton, NC	Greg Silbernagel	Greg.M.Silbernagel@oregon.gov	541-278-5456
			Fax 541-278-0287
6 – La Grande, E	Shad Hattan	Shad.L.Hattan@oregon.gov	541-963-1031
			Fax 541-550-3898
7 – Enterprise, E	David Bates	David.D.Bates@oregon.gov	541-398-8172
			Fax 888-572-7936
8 – Baker City, E	Marcy Osborn	Marcy.J.Osborn@oregon.gov	541-523-8224 x231
			Fax 541-550-3898
9 – Vale, E	Jered Hoshaw	Jered.L.Hoshaw@oregon.gov	541-473-5130
10 – Burns, E	JR Johnson	JR.Johnson@oregon.gov	541-573-2764
			Fax 541-573-8387
11 – Bend, SC	Jeremy Giffin	Jeremy.T.Giffin@oregon.gov	541-306-6885
			Fax 541-388-5101
12 – Lakeview, SC	Brian Mayer	Brian.M.Mayer@oregon.gov	541-947-6038
			Fax 541-947-6063
13 – Medford, SW	Shavon Haynes	Shavon.L.Haynes@oregon.gov	541-774-6880
			Fax 541-774-6187
14 – Grants Pass, SW	Scott Ceciliani	Scott.C.Ceciliani@oregon.gov	541-476-1288
15 – Roseburg, SW	Susan Douthit	Susan.M.Douthit@oregon.gov	541-440-4255
			Fax 541-440-6264
16 – Salem, NW	Greg Wacker	Gregory.J.Wacker@oregon.gov	971-719-6262
			Fax 503-986-0904
17 – Klamath Falls, SC	Danette Watson	Danette.M.Watson@oregon.gov	541-883-4182
18 – Hillsboro, NW	Jake Constans	Jake.W.Constans@oregon.gov	503-846-7780
			Fax 503-846-7782
20 – Clackamas, NW	Amy Landvoigt	Amy.J.Landvoigt@oregon.gov	503-312-1743
21 – Condon, NC	Ken Thiemann	Kenneth.C.Thiemann@oregon.gov	541-384-4207
			Fax 541-384-2167
22 – Salem, NW	Joel Plahn	Joel.M.Plahn@oregon.gov	503-508-2394
			Fax 503-986-0904

Well Construction Program Contact List

Name / Title / Contact	For help with			
Kristopher Byrd WCC Manager 503-991-2470 Kristopher.R.Byrd@oregon.gov	* General Program Questions and Concerns * Clarification of Oregon Rules & Statutes * Compliance			
Travis Kelly Well Construction Program Coordinator 503-302-8618 Travis.N.Kelly@oregon.gov	* Special Standards * Well Construction Standards & Rules * Well Decommissioning			
Scott Kudlemyer Exempt Use Program Coordinator 971-287-8360 Scott.B.Kudlemyer@oregon.gov	* \$300 Exempt Use / Recording fee * Exempt Use Maps			
Buffy Madrigal-Adams Well License Program Coordinator 971-287-8305 Buffy.M.Madrigal- Adams@oregon.gov	* Driller Licensing * Continuing Education Credits (CECs) and Committee * E-filed Well Report/Start Card issues (including amendments) * Landowner Permits			
Ladeena Ashley Well ID Program Coordinator 971-287-8218 Ladeena.K.Ashley@oregon.gov	* Well ID Labels * Well Report Search * Start Card / Well Report Amendments			
Linda Walker Well Report Review Coordinator 971-287-8201 Linda.K.Walker@oregon.gov	* Well Report / Start Card Amendments * Geotechnical Hole Report Reviews / Invoicing * Well Report Search			
WCC Section Team wrd dl wcc@oregon.gov	* For well concerns not listed above, or general well or well construction-related questions			
Order Labels & Supplies Online WRD DL web requests wlc@oregon.gov				
Fax # for Start Cards	503-986-0902			

PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD



An old dug well that has collapsed.



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WELL SAID NEWSLETTER - Oregon Water Resources Dept

Well Construction & Compliance Staff Directory

Kristopher Byrd, Manager Kristopher.R.Byrd@oregon.gov (503) 991-2470

Travis Kelly, Coordinator, Well Construction Program <u>Travis.N.Kelly@oregon.gov</u> (503) 302-8618

Ladeena Ashley, Well ID Program Coordinator <u>Ladeena.K.Ashley@oregon.gov</u> (971) 287-8218

Buffy Madrigal-Adams, License and Compliance Specialist <u>Buffy.M.Madrigal-Adams@oregon.gov</u> (971) 287-8305 Linda Walker, Well Log Review Coordinator <u>Linda.K.Walker@oregon.gov</u> (971) 287-8201

Scott Kudlemyer, Exempt Use Program Coordinator Scott.B.Kudlemyer@oregon.gov (971) 287-8360

Enforcement Section Fax (503) 986-0902

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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

