

# KENTUCKY WATER WELL DRILLER'S QUARTERLY

Winter-Spring 2016  
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## **Notes from Water Well Drillers' Certification Program Coordinator**

Scotty Robertson

2015 saw a lot of changes here in the Kentucky Division of Water and in the Groundwater Section. The Environment and Energy Cabinet's leadership changed, and the groundwater section has three new employees. Sadly, we lost several water and monitoring well drillers to death, retirement, and to the economy in 2015.

In other news, Gus Naranjo, who is a driller from Graves County, and I helped make a YouTube video in conjunction with the University of Kentucky Department of Agriculture and the Kentucky Geological Survey called "**ABANDONED WELLS A Guide for Kentucky Landowners**". You can find it at:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6kWtRP8m\\_IM&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6kWtRP8m_IM&feature=youtu.be).

We expect even more changes in 2016. First of all, the Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection (KYDEP) is expected to be moving office locations by mid-year. This includes the offices of the Kentucky Division of Water. In addition, the KYDEP will be transitioning to a paperless office. This means any paperwork received by the Division of Water will be scanned into a computer database before processing.

The new paperless procedure may result in some delays initially as the Groundwater Section learns new procedures for processing items like well construction records, well plugging and maintenance records, variance requests, certification renewals, and applications. In addition, the DOW hopes to have in place electronic submittal for well plugging and maintenance records sometime this year.

The Water Well Drillers' Certification Program intends to conduct more well audits this year, and to update the water well certification website. The Groundwater Section has started collecting water level data in wells and spring flow measurements as we attempt to address water quantity issues across the state. Some of this work maybe in conjunction with other state agencies, like the Kentucky Geological Survey.

The KYGWA tradeshow and workshop was held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at the Holiday Inn East at 1325 Hurstbourne, Louisville, Kentucky.

The Drillers' Certification renewal begins June 1, 2016.

## **2016 Well Drillers' Certification Program Board Meetings**

Groundwater Staff

The Well Drillers' Certification Board held their first quarterly board meeting for the year on March 2, 2016. The geothermal amendment to KRS 223.400, which would require the certification of drillers who install closed loop vertical boreholes in Kentucky, was the first order of business. The board also discussed amending the regulations or statutes to change the current requirements of obtaining a passing score on the NGWA exams in order to become certified as a water well driller. Options discussed included having the DOW and drillers' board develop their own qualifying examinations.

The board also discussed its options to amend the current statutes and regulations to allow certified drillers to have apprentices in training who would be able to operate the drill rig without the certified driller being on site. The apprentices would be able to perform certain drilling tasks without being under the direct or visual supervision of the certified driller once the driller is comfortable with their abilities. This would mean the certified driller would not have to be on site at all times during a well installation. The number of apprentices a certified driller could oversee at any given time would be limited.

Previously the DOW website housed the minutes of the board meeting. However, this practice has been discontinued. Please contact Tekoyia Brown at 502-564-3410 or at [tekoyia.brown@ky.gov](mailto:tekoyia.brown@ky.gov) for a copy of the minutes of the meetings. You may also file an open records request at <http://eec.ky.gov/Pages/OpenRecords.aspx> to obtain copies of the board minutes.

The next board meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. at Barren River State Resort Park near Lucas, KY. Board meetings are open to the public, and all drillers are encouraged to attend. If you plan to attend, we ask that you contact Scotty or Tekoyia, at 502-564-3410, so that accommodations can be made.

## **The Certification Renewal period for 2016-2017 Starts June 1, 2016**

Groundwater Staff

The certification renewal period begins on June 1, 2016, and runs through August 31, 2016. You must have completed 5 hours of annual training, updated your liability insurance and have an active \$5,000 surety bond on file with the Division of Water in order to renew your certification.

If you have do not renew your certification for the year, you will not be allowed to install wells in Kentucky until you comply with the regulations.

Submit all renewal information, fee, and application to the Kentucky Division of Water; Watershed Management Branch, Attention; Water Well Drillers Certification Program, Groundwater Section, at 200 Fair Oaks Lane in Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. (Unless we've moved by then!)

Drillers can receive **1 hour** of credit from the annual OSHA HAZWOPER 8 hour refresher course if they submit a current copy of the certificate.

***All outside training requires preapproval by the Division of Water to insure training credit. If you don't get preapproval, you may not get training credit depending on the course(s)' content!!***

If you have any questions, please contact Scotty Robertson at [scotty.robertson@ky.gov](mailto:scotty.robertson@ky.gov) or 502-564-3410. <http://water.ky.gov/groundwater/Pages/WellDrillersProgram.aspx>

The following is a list of National Groundwater Association Continuing Education opportunities:

#### Conferences

April 24-27, 2016	<a href="#">2016 NGWA Groundwater Summit</a>
April 28, 2016	<a href="#">The Groundwater Visibility Initiative: Integrating Groundwater and Surface Water Management Workshop</a>
June 6-7, 2016	<a href="#">Groundwater from the Mountains to the Sea in the Central Atlantic Region</a>
September 8-9, 2016	<a href="#">Connecting the Dots...Groundwater, Surface Water, and Climate Connections</a>
November 9-12, 2016	<a href="#">Emerging Leaders Alliance Conference</a>
December 6-8, 2016	<a href="#">2016 Groundwater Week</a>

#### Courses and workshops

April 7-8, 2016	<a href="#">Introduction to Statistical Methods for Environmental Monitoring</a>
April 20-22, 2016	<a href="#">Low-Cost Remediation Strategies for Contaminated Soil and Groundwater</a>
April 24, 2016	<a href="#">Environmental Hydrology — Characterization and Remediation of Hardrock Mine Sites</a>
April 24, 2016	<a href="#">Using Big Data Analytics to Proactively Identify and Communicate Aquifer Risks</a>
April 28-29, 2016	<a href="#">An Integrated Approach for Evaluating Natural Attenuation Using CSIA, Molecular Biological Tools, Magnetic Susceptibility, and Geochemistry</a>
April 28-29, 2016	<a href="#">Fundamentals of Groundwater Geochemistry</a>
June 6-8, 2016	<a href="#">Field Methods: Groundwater Sampling and Analysis</a>

**Announcement**

In Accordance with KRS 223.415 **recommendations for At-large appointments to the Kentucky Water Well Certification Board** are now being accepted.

Appointments open for consideration are as follows:

1. A driller who is an active member of both the National Water Well Association and the Kentucky Water Well Association and whose business is actively involved in drilling water wells.
2. Two (2) members who are water well drillers and who are presently in the business of drilling wells, each representing a different geographic region within the Commonwealth
3. A member from the public at large, who shall not be in any way connected with a water well business.

Duties and requirements for those serving on the Board include:

- Advising the governor on issues affecting drillers and the drilling community
- Attending quarterly board meetings
- Working on problems and solutions that affect drillers, citizens and the environment
- Sharing your knowledge, expertise, and opinions with others, and
- You must be a citizen of the Commonwealth

If you are interested in serving on the board in one of these positions, please contact **David Jackson**, Supervisor, Groundwater Section, at the following:

Kentucky Division of Water  
200 Fair Oaks Lane  
Frankfort, KY, 40601  
Phone: 502 564-3410  
Fax: 502 564-9636  
Email: [davida.jackson@ky.gov](mailto:davida.jackson@ky.gov)

**Interested Parties must submit a written application by June 3, 2016 in order to be considered for appointment.**

Appointments are open to new applicants, as well as current and past members of the board.

# Kentucky Groundwater Association Scholarship Fund

For College and Trade School Participants  
Open to KYGWA Members and their Families

Application can be downloaded at:

<http://www.kygroundwater.com/index.php>

or contact

Melody Burgess

at

Kentucky Groundwater Association

P.O. Box 991

Mayfield, Kentucky 42066

Phone: 270 251-3004 or 270 970-0034

Email: [kygwa75@yahoo.com](mailto:kygwa75@yahoo.com)

Application Deadline: May 15, 2016

## **Quick Links**

- [Kentucky Driller Quarterly](#)
- [Forms and Applications](#)
- [Other States Drillers Programs](#)
- [Training Resources](#)
- [Water Well Drillers Certification Board Meetings](#)

### **Water Well Driller's Directory 2016**

<http://water.ky.gov/groundwater/Documents/GWDrillersDirectory.pdf>

### **Water Well Driller's Directory 2016 Map**

<http://water.ky.gov/groundwater/Documents/GWDrillersMap.pdf>

<http://water.ky.gov/>

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