Driller Field Reviews

The Water Well Drillers Certification Program will begin conducting water well driller field reviews this spring. The primary purpose of these reviews is to improve communication between drillers program personnel, water well drillers and well owners. The field reviews will consist of observing water well drilling and talking with water well owners about water wells and groundwater protection.

Water well drillers will be selected randomly throughout the state and will be contacted by Joe Moffitt or Harold Lee to schedule a field review.

KYGWA Workshop/Success

The 19th Annual Kentucky Ground Water Association’s Drillers’ Workshop held in Lexington in March was considered a success. There were a lot of compliments about the location and speakers. Personnel from the Division of Water were in attendance and stamped training cards for 111 certified drillers and administered 28 exams to 12 people.

A highlight at this year’s workshop was an opening speech by Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet Secretary LaJuana S. Wilcher. Secretary Wilcher summarized her background, spoke of her commitment to protecting the environment, especially groundwater, and the importance of the services provided by water well and monitoring well drillers. This marked the first time a state official of this position had addressed the workshop.

If you have topics you would like to see on future programs at the workshop, please call the Kentucky Ground Water Association at (270) 251-3004. Remember, this is not a state workshop. The Kentucky Ground Water Association is a separate entity from the Division of Water. There are still some drillers who think this annual workshop is a state-administered workshop. This workshop is just one way for a driller to meet the annual training requirement for renewal.
Applications and Forms now on Web Site

Groundwater Branch forms are now available on the Groundwater Branch’s web site. Water Well Record forms as well as Monitoring Well Record forms, Variance Request, Applications, Bond forms, etc.

The web site address is: www.water.ky.gov/gw/gwtech/gwdrill/

Board Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Kentucky Water Well Certification Board will be Friday, June 18, starting at 9 a.m. at the Division of Water in Frankfort.

The meeting will be open to all drillers and the public.

Reminder

In accordance with 401 KAR 6:310 the water well driller is to provide the well owner with a copy of the well log and “information prepared by the cabinet explaining the importance of water well sampling, procedures for sampling, and how the water can be tested to assure a safe supply of water.”

The Handbook for the Kentucky Water Well User, the “Blue” book, has been replaced with the Routine Water Well Maintenance and Disinfection Guide. This is the “information prepared by the cabinet” to be provided to the well owner. The guide can be obtain by calling the Groundwater Branch at (502) 564-3410, or it can be downloaded from the Branch’s web site at www.water.ky.gov/gw/gwtech/gwdrill/

Cabinet Name Change

The new name for the former Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet is the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet. The name change was a result of the combining of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, the Public Protection and Regulation Cabinet, and the Labor Cabinet. This reorganization failed to pass the legislature, but will remain in effect until it is replaced by another executive order in June.

The Department for Environmental Protection, within the Cabinet, remains with the same divisions of Water, Waste Management, Air Quality, and Environmental Services as before. The Groundwater Branch remains in the Division of Water.

Monitoring Well Site Closings

Monitoring Well Reminder: Regulations require that owners “shall ensure that monitoring wells are properly abandoned [plugged] within thirty (30) days of the last sampling date or the determination is made that the monitoring well is unsuitable for use.” If you are unfamiliar with the proper plugging procedures, please check with the Division of Waste Management at (502) 564-6716 (or by email) for the program regulating the site. Contact personnel are:

UST: Brad Highley (Brad.Highley@ky.gov)
Solid Waste: Todd Hendricks (Todd.Hendricks@ky.gov)
Hazardous Waste: Dale Burton (Dale.Burton@ky.gov)
Superfund: Tim Hubbard (Tim.Hubbard@ky.gov)
Death of Driller

Recently the Groundwater Branch learned of the death of Mr. Milford Anderson of Anderson Drilling in Coopersville, Wayne County, Kentucky. Mr. Anderson was 80 years old and had been a Kentucky certified water well driller since 1985. Our sympathy goes out to his family.

Renewal Reminder

Look for your 2004—2005 Certification Renewal Application in June. Remember to attach any training documentation. If you attended the Kentucky Ground Water Association’s Workshop in March, your signature card should have been turned in to Division of Water personnel. If not, attach it to your application.

If you have any questions about the upcoming renewal period, call Harold Lee at the Groundwater Branch (502) 564-3410, or E-mail at: Harold.Lee@ky.gov

Training Opportunities

South Atlantic Well Drillers Jubilee
Myrtle Beach, S.C.
July 31 - August 3, 2004
South Atlantic Well Drillers Jubilee
P. O. Box 1290
New Market, VA 22844
Phone (540) 740-3329

Georgia Well Drillers Association
Convention and Trade Show
August 24 - 25, 2004
Westin Hotel
Savannah, GA
Phone (678) 646-0369

Reminders

In order to use training other than the Kentucky Ground Water Association’s Annual Drillers’ Workshop, you MUST contact Joe Moffitt, or Harold Lee at the Groundwater Branch. Phone: (502) 564-3410.

Remember to obtain proper attendance documentation when attending any training for your continuing training requirement. This includes a signed certificate, training card or letter along with an agenda.
Groundwater Protection Plans

Generic Groundwater Protection Plans (GPP) for well drillers are available. Drillers are required to keep and implement a GPP. Also, generic GPPs for domestic wells and septic systems are available to homeowners. These GPPs can be located on the Groundwater Branch’s Web site at: http://www.water.ky.gov/gw/gwprotection/gwplans/ or by contacting Pat Keefe at (502) 564-6120, Ext. 4565

Call Before You Dig

Kentucky Underground Protection, Inc., is a nonprofit organization established to provide a communication link between excavators and operators of underground utilities.

KRS 367.4901 to 367.4917 requires that you call two business days before you dig in the state of Kentucky.

The toll free number to call is: 1-800-752-6007
In Louisville, (502) 266-5123

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Visit the Groundwater Branch, Technical Services page, on the Internet at:

http://www.water.ky.gov/gw/gwtech/gwdrill/

E-mail: Harold.Lee@ky.gov

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