



Kentucky Water Well Drillers Quarterly

An Occasional Publication of the Groundwater Section
Of the Watershed Management Branch
Kentucky Division of Water
Environment and Environmental Protection Cabinet



Governor Beshear proclaims May 6-12 Drinking Water Week in Kentucky

Special points of interest:

- Don't forget to Renew your License!!!
- Governor Proclaims Drinking Water Week In Kentucky
- Board Member Retires
- Meet Scotty Robertson
- See Joe Moffitt receive his award
- Learn How to Renew Online

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FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 3, 2012) – Governor Steven Beshear proclaimed May 6 through 12 as Drinking Water Week in Kentucky. This annual event recognizes the importance of water source protection and conservation, as well as the value and fragility of the state's water resources.

"Safe drinking water plays a vital role in citizens' everyday lives and is critical to the Commonwealth's economy," said Gov. Beshear. "Our health, comfort and standard of living depend on an abundant supply of safe drinking water. I urge Kentuckians to get involved in decisions that affect their local drinking water supplies." The 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act established provisions to

give customers of public water systems greater access to information and opportunities to participate in drinking water issues. The "right-to-know" provisions are based on the premise that accountability to the public is vital for addressing and preventing threats to drinking water.

A few ways you can get involved:

- Read the Consumer Confidence Report sent each July by your local water utility.
- Comment on new drinking water regulations and support documents.
- Participate in community activities to protect your water source.
- Attend public meetings and public hearings or your local water system's board

meetings. Report unusual activities, threats or pollution spills in your watershed.

To learn more about how the Kentucky Division of Water is working to ensure safe drinking water, visit their website at <http://water.ky.gov/>.

KWWCB Meeting Notice

The next Kentucky Water Wells Drillers Certification Board meeting will be held at Greenbo Lake State Park on **July 13, 2012** and is schedule to start at 9:00 AM EST. The board meetings are open to the public and all Drillers are welcome to attend.

Don't Forget

to watch for the announcement for the 2013 Kentucky Ground Water Association Tradeshow and Drillers Workshop, early **March 2013 !!**



Joe Moffitt Receiving his Award



KGS Website Photo

Kentucky Ground Water Association Tradeshow and Drillers Workshop 2012

On March 1st and 2nd 2012 the Kentucky Ground Water Association (KGWA) held its annual tradeshow and driller's workshop in Louisville, Kentucky. Approximately 100 drillers registered and attended the tradeshow and training. The event was well supported by many of the major supplier and vendors of drilling products displaying the latest wares and technologies in the field of drilling.

The KGWA training remains a popular venue for drillers from across the nation to attend to obtain CEUs (continuing education credits). CEUs are required by many states for renewal and new license certifications. This fact was substantiated by 94 drillers who turned in proof of training cards from the workshop.

In addition to the many vendors who attended the tradeshow and the excellent training opportunities, KGWA held an auction to benefit charity. This event was a rousing success with many of the vendors donating many of their products for the auction. Bidding for the items were fast and furious with many great buys being made. Some of the items up for sale included deep fryers, tool sets and digital notebooks. KGWA raised close to one thousand dollars for the night, and would all like to take this time to thank the vendors, the drillers, the driller's wives, especially Mrs. Orris Hayes who didn't find a deal that she did not like!, and all the other participants who made the night so special. A special pat on the back goes out to Kevin Moses and the South Atlantic Jubilee for their participation in this event.

Joe Moffitt attended the tradeshow for the first time as a monitoring well driller. Joe, the former Kentucky Water Well Driller's Program Coordinator, was given a lifetime membership to the KGWA. Joe was also awarded a plaque with a replica of a hand pump on it by the KWGA in appreciation of his service to the drilling community, along with a fishing pole and tackle box as a retirement gift.

Board Member Retires

Kentucky Water Well Certification Board (KWWCB) member Dr. James S. Dinger recently retired as head of the Water Resources Section of the Kentucky Geological Survey (KGS). His retirement also means his resignation as the hydrogeologist representing the Kentucky Geological Survey on our board. The KWWCB thanks Dr. Dinger for his many years of service.

Jim attended Juniata College, in Pennsylvania where he received a B.S. in Geology and followed that by attending the University of Vermont where he obtained his M.S. in Geology. Jim then received his PhD. in hydrology from University of Nevada in Reno. Jim is a professional geologist in Kentucky and Indiana. He belongs to the Geological Society of America and the Kentucky Society of professional geologist.

Jim came to the KGS many moons ago. He has been an integral part of that institution as long as anyone can remember. He conducted numerous research projects and authored or co-authored numerous research papers on the hydrogeological aspects of Kentucky. His responsibilities at the KGS included: development, continuity, and agency interaction concerning water-resources programs in Kentucky; ground water; fracture control; coal-field hydrology; agricultural water quality; karst; databases. **Continued on Page 3**

HB 561 Geothermal Well Driller Certification

As many of you know, KGWA, with the support of your Water Well Certification Board, sought to introduce legislation during this year's General Assembly. The legislation was to amend **KRS 223.400** to require certification of drillers who drill and install closed loop vertical boreholes. The legislation was introduced as **HB 561** by Representative Leslie A. Combs (D), District 94, located in far eastern Kentucky. **HB561** would amend **KRS 223.400**, the statute that currently requires certification of water well and monitoring well drillers in Kentucky, to include certification of geothermal drillers. **HB561** would also promulgate construction standards and practices regulations for Closed Loop Geothermal Wells.

HB561 was introduced into the Commonwealth of Kentucky House of Representatives in Frankfort, Kentucky on March 1, 2012. Rep. Combs introduced **HB 561** to the Tourism Development & Energy (H) committee on March 5, 2012. **HB561** was posted in the committee on March 19, 2012 and on March 22 the committee reported favorably for the 1st reading to the Calendar. On March 23, **HB561** had its 2nd reading to Rules committee. However, the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection was concerned about revenue projections associated with implementation of **HB561**, and required that a floor amendment be filed on March 27, and the bill was recommitted to Appropriations & Revenue Committee (H). It was now late in the session and **HB561** died in committee and failed to be passed in this year's legislative session.

Volunteers Needed for Well Site Field Audits

Scotty Robertson began conducting field audits of water and monitoring well drillers this quarter. One audit has been completed thus far. These field audits are not intended to be regulatory inspections.

The primary purpose is to observe the well drilling operations and to address any problems the driller may have related to the certification program. Mr. Robertson is seeking volunteers to be audited. If

you would like to volunteer to be audited please contact him if you would like to schedule a time to meet at your well site. You may contact Scotty Robertson at 502-564-3410, ext. 4943, or e-mail

Board Member Retires, from Page 2

Jim was appointed to the Kentucky Water Well Certification Board by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky shortly after the board's creation. He actively served on the board for about twenty six years. In that time he advised the board of Kentucky's statutes and helped revise the regulations for the certification of water well drillers and the water well construction. He has diligently worked for the protection of Kentucky's groundwater. Jim is well known for playing the devil's advocate at board meetings to help the board in resolving the many issues the board faces. Jim recently has been active in assisting the board in addressing geothermal well drilling issues in Kentucky.

Jim is having an active retirement. He recently returned, from a sailing trip in the Bahamas, and enjoys riding his motorcycle and kayaking. His sharp wit, sense of humor, and insight into the workings of state government will be missed in the quarterly board meetings, but not forgotten.

Bart Davidson of the KGS will serve as an interim replacement on the Kentucky Water Well Certification board until an official replacement is appointed.



This is not the preferred way to install a geothermal well.

Rep. Combs has indicated she will re-file the geothermal bill in January in the 2013 Session. The new bill will address the funding issues of **HB 561** and will be filed early in the session.



Kelly Well Drilling's New Reverse Air Circulation Drill Rig

Meet Scotty Robertson - Your New Program Coordinator

A native of Owensboro, Kentucky, Scotty Robertson attended school with a close relative of Johnny Depp, as well as lots of other people who didn't have famous brothers at the time either. After graduating from the prestigious Owensboro High School, Scotty attended Western Kentucky University where he earned a BS degree in Geology and later a MS from Eastern Kentucky University.

Scotty left his schooling to pursue a lucrative career in the oil fields, but the promised job never materialized. After wildcatting (petroleum wells) on his own in the western Kentucky oil fields for nearly a year, he could see that the future was bright in the environmental field, and so he worked with several environmental consulting companies over the next couple of decades. About a year ago, with the uncertain economic times upon us, Scotty accepted a stable but low-paying job with the Division of Water (DOW).

His new supervisor, David Jackson, seeing his potential as an underground investigator, immediately assigned him the task of locating the leak in Pipeline Cave in Frankfort, Kentucky. (Pipeline Cave is so named due to the sewer lines that pass through it.) Scotty found no leaks from the pipes in the cave, but to date the material has not flushed out.

Since that time he has come up in the world and is (usually) out of the sewers. After the retirement of Joe Moffitt in October of 2011, Scotty assumed the mantle of Supreme Coordinator of the Water Well Drillers Certification Program for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. He notes that this is equally as low-paying as the previous job, but the working conditions are usually dryer and better smelling.

In addition to his geological knowledge and experience, Scotty is renowned for his barbequing skills. He has already proven to be a valuable asset to the DOW and especially to the Groundwater Section.

When he's not working, Scotty lives in Frankfort with his spouse of 23 years, Kaye, plus a small but reportedly very bossy Shih Tzu named Ivy and a demanding cat named Sissy.

Scotty is looking forward to meeting all the drillers and associated driller-wannabes, and says he is always available to answer your questions about any aspect of the program. Call him today at (502) 564-3410 or email him at scotty.robertson@ky.gov.



Scotty on his first assignment for the DOW—Pipeline Cave



That's not water he's kneeling in!!



Coming soon to a drill rig or barbeque near you!

Friendly Reminders & Helpful Links

The link to the Water Well Owners Guide is <http://dep.ky.gov/formslibrary/Documents/GWWaterWellOwnersGuide.pdf>

Please remember to give your water well customers a copy of the guide when you give them your bill.

New or updated **Well Reporting forms** are now available at <http://water.ky.gov/groundwater/Pages/FormsApplications.aspx>

The link to the Kentucky Geological Survey <http://www.uky.edu/KGS/>

Groundwater Protection Plans and Generic Wellhead plans are available on the Groundwater Section's Web site at: <http://water.ky.gov/groundwater/Pages/GroundwaterProtection.aspx>

Driller Certification Renewal Time Again

Don't forget that your 2011/2012 certification expired May 31, 2012. The Certification Renewal Period begins June 1, 2012 and continues through August 31, 2012. During this time period we highly recommend that you renew your certification online.

Note: Your liability insurance, surety bond and five hours of training must be current before you can renew online.

If you attended the KGWA Tradeshow in March 2012 and turned in your proof of training card, our database has been updated for your training. If you have not sent in a updated copy of your proof of liability insurance or training you must do so before you can renew on line.

You can renew online by going to <http://water.ky.gov> and then choose **Programs > Well Drillers Certification** Program in the header at the top of the page. Look for the ePay example below on the well driller web page. <http://water.ky.gov/groundwater/Pages/WellDrillersProgram.aspx>

If you are having trouble paying online please contact Jo Blanset at jo.blanset@ky.gov for assistance.



Online well record submittal is available on line also:



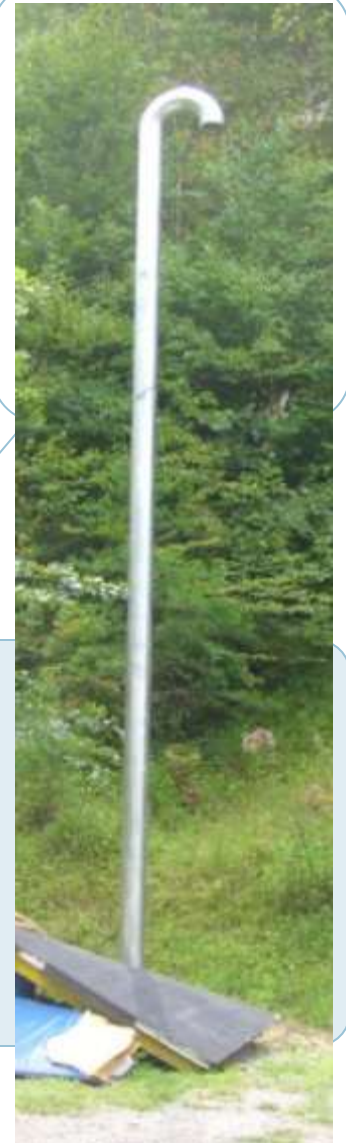
Complaints and Regulation Violations

The DOW sent letters to three Drillers this quarter for violating 401 KAR 6:320 for drilling wells on expired certifications. All three Drillers have since come into compliance with the regulations.

Remember, if you are drilling, modifying or abandoning monitoring or water wells, your certification must be up-to-date. Unless you have already renewed, your certification expired May 31, 2012.

In addition, one Driller was cited for installing a well within regulated setback limits for a Septic System. The driller had to abandon and replace the well at his expense.

Be sure to verify the well location relative to setback distances (usually 75 feet) prior to drilling the well. If these distances can't be met, then apply for a variance by suggesting a more protective well installation solution and get approval before drilling the well.



Gas vent on a water well in Eastern Kentucky



Same well, before proper venting

THE 57th SOUTH ATLANTIC WELL DRILLERS

JUBILEE

July 21 –23, 2012

Virginia Beach Convention Center

1000 19th Street

Virginia Beach, Virginia

<http://www.iubileewatershow.com/>

Email: info@iubileewatershow.com

Phone: 540-740-3329



In Memory of
Bobby E. Roberts passed away
May 6th, 2012.



Kentucky
UNBRIDLED SPIRIT™

<http://www.KentuckyUnbridledSpirit.com>

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Got an Interesting or Funny Drilling Story or Picture you would like to Share? Then send it to scotty.robertson@ky.gov and you may see it here.