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KENTUCKY WELL DRILLERS QUARTERLY

DRILLER RECERTIFICATION

Authored by: Megan Sidaway

It's that time of year again for you to renew your drillers or drillers assistant certification. We've made the renewal process simple, with two convenient options to choose from:

Option 1: Renew Online

Use our <u>ePortal</u> to upload your required documents and pay your renewal fee. It is quick, easy, and accessible 24/7. If you run into any issues with the process, our team is here to help.

Option 2: Mail-In Application

Prefer paper? You can print, complete, and submit your **Application for Certification Renewal** by mail. Be sure to include:

- A completed Recertification form
- Certificate of Liability Insurance
- Updated Bond information (if applicable)
- A \$200 Recertification fee (Checks should be made payable to *The Kentucky State Treasurer*)

Please double-check that your mailing address is current. Your certification and wallet card will be sent to the address listed on your form. If you'd like them to be mailed to a different address, just let us know.





Considering the Driller's Assistant Program?

Now is a great time to explore the Driller's Assistant Program, ideal for companies with team members working under a certified driller who are ready to take the next step. To get started applicants must submit:

- An Application for Certification
- A \$50 application fee
- Exam fees: \$80 per exam
- Name and information of the certified supervising driller

The Drillers Certification Program is always ready to help with any questions or concerns that may come up during the recertification process. Please feel free to contact us at <u>tim.collins@ky.gov</u>, (502)782-4206 or <u>megan.sidaway@ky.gov</u>, (502)782-0152.





IMPORTANCE OF PROPER SEALING

Authored by: Adam Smith

As supervisor of the groundwater section, I often see issues that arise from wells, springs, and even mine openings from the public. Many of these issues derive from surface water that enters these areas or impacts from contaminants from another source that have gotten to a particular water bearing zone. Sometimes it can be as complex as a contaminant moving thousands of feet in an open fracture or can be as simple as not sealing a well properly. With over 50 percent of the state being covered in limestone, which is prone to sinkholes and large caves, it can be even more difficult to keep contaminants out of our groundwater.

Keeping surface water and other contaminants from other aquifers out of groundwater is essential to having good quality water. Groundwater aquifers are vital to development in certain areas of the state where a large amount of water is needed. These needs can be domestic, industrial, and even agricultural.

Once an aquifer is impacted it may never recover to be a usable source for drinking water. As well drillers, both monitoring and water, it's important to be good stewards of our groundwater resources. Regulations both water and **monitoring** provide the standard practices to ensure groundwater that is interacted with during the construction or abandonment process is kept separated between different water bearing units.

There are some key points to keep in mind when designing a monitoring or water well:

- The goal of the designs and regulations is to keep water from each area in its own place as much possible.
- Sealing up to the surface with the correct sealing materials keeps • surface water runoff from impacting a well with contaminants.
- Casings and sealing materials help to seal off unwanted water bearing zones from impacting your good water source or can make a monitoring well more accurately reflect the information you are trying to obtain by the installation.

Any questions on well designs and regulations can always be found in the Any questions on well designs and regulations can always be round in the regulations above or you can reach out with questions to tim.collins@ky.gov, TEAM (502)782-4206 or megan.sidaway@ky.gov, (502)782-0152.

DID YOU KNOW?

-You can access well logs, groundwater data, and geologic maps at the <u>Kentucky</u> Geological Survey all well records that have been submitted to the state end up here.

-Groundwater Protection Plans are great to help identify the best management practices for a drilling site. You can find more information and how to develop your own at Groundwater Protection Plans.

-Well yield and water quality can vary dramatically over short distances in Kentucky (depending on the environment), even between wells on the same property.

-The Kentucky Division of Water maintains an online database of certified well drillers in the state at KY Certified Well Drillers, homeowners can check it to hire qualified professionals

-In karst areas, dye tracing studies have shown that groundwater, and well contaminants can travel several miles in less than a day.



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CABINET



EMAILS AND QUICK LINKS

Emails of Groundwater Staff:

- adam.smith@ky.gov
- <u>kurtis.spears@ky.gov</u>
- <u>tim.collins@ky.gov</u>
- bronson.mcqueen@ky.gov
- zachary.campbell@ky.gov
- megan.sidaway@ky.gov

Quick Links

Water Well Drillers Certification:

https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/kar/titles/401/006/320/

Monitoring Well Construction:

https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/kar/titles/401/006/350/

Well Owner's Guide:

https://eec.ky.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water/Reports/Reports/2009-WaterWellOwnersGuide.pdf

Water Supply Well Construction:

https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/kar/titles/401/006/310/

Well Driller Certification Program:

https://eec.ky.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water/GW/Pages/GWDrillers.aspx

Well Record Information Map:

https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/cdacd3e110aa4ba188283c586513b303

