

# KENTUCKY WATER WELL DRILLER'S QUARTERLY

Winter/Summer 2016  
Published August, 2016

---

## **Energy and Environment Cabinet Move is Now Completed!**

**Scotty Robertson**

Our move to the new home of the Energy and Environment Cabinet, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water headquarters is now complete. Our offices are now located at 300 Sower Blvd. in Frankfort, KY.

The Water Well Drillers Certification Program is part of the Groundwater Section, in the Watershed Management Branch, of the Division of Water. We are located on the third floor of the 300 bldg.

In lieu of using the old the Division of Water old phone number (502-564-3410) please use our new direct telephone numbers. So in order to reach someone in the Groundwater Section about drilling or groundwater issues please refer to the following list of telephone numbers:

<a href="#">David Jackson, PG</a>	<a href="#">Supervisor Groundwater Section</a>	<a href="#">502-782-6986</a>
<a href="#">Scotty Robertson, PG</a>	<a href="#">Water Well Drillers Certification Program Coordinator</a>	<a href="#">502-782-7054</a>
<a href="#">Tekoyia Brown (T.K.)</a>	<a href="#">Water Well Drillers Certification Administrative Coordinator</a>	<a href="#">502-782-6902</a>
<a href="#">Susan Mallette, PG</a>	<a href="#">Groundwater Protection Plan Program</a>	<a href="#">502-782-7006</a>
<a href="#">Emily Denlinger</a>	<a href="#">Ambient Groundwater Monitoring Program</a>	<a href="#">502-782-6934</a>
<a href="#">Sean Vanderhoff</a>	<a href="#">Non-Point Source Program</a>	<a href="#">502-782-7119</a>

Our previous Fax Number lines 502-564-9636 and 502-564-9899 have been disconnected:

The new DOW Fax Number is: [502-564-4254](tel:502-564-4254)

You can still reach us at our email addresses:

[davida.jackson@ky.gov](mailto:davida.jackson@ky.gov)  
[scotty.robertson@ky.gov](mailto:scotty.robertson@ky.gov)  
[susan.mallette@ky.gov](mailto:susan.mallette@ky.gov)  
[emily.denlinger@ky.gov](mailto:emily.denlinger@ky.gov)  
[sean.vanderhoff@ky.gov](mailto:sean.vanderhoff@ky.gov)  
[Tekoyia.brown@ky.gov](mailto:Tekoyia.brown@ky.gov)

We will be getting new business cards sometime in the future.

## **Notes from Water Well Drillers' Certification Program Coordinator**

**Scotty Robertson**

The Division of Water has received numerous requests from citizens looking for water well drillers with special capabilities and equipment. I also receive hundreds of request to locate drillers to drill water wells in specific locations within Kentucky. The Division of Water can not recommend one driller over another or one company over another.

When queried DOW personnel normally will give the person inquiring the link to the drillers directory or give them the names and numbers of three drillers we feel probably work in that particular area.

The Water Well Drillers Certification Program's website has a link to a directory of certified water well and monitoring well drillers in Kentucky. The website also has a map of Kentucky certified drillers and counties where their offices are located, if in Kentucky. This map also lists certified drillers from surrounding states. The map does not indicate areas of service for drillers in or out of the commonwealth. If you look at the map there are as many out- of- state certified drillers as there are in- state drillers.

To DOW personnel fielding these inquiries it would be helpful to know in what counties you are willing to work within Kentucky and the capabilities and equipment you and your company are able to supply.

As an example, the DOW receives multiple calls for domestic water well drilling in Jefferson County, Kentucky, each year. However, many certified water well drillers giving their office location in Louisville, do not install domestic water wells. However, some of the out- of- state certified drillers work in Jefferson County, Kentucky, and install domestic water wells. However, by looking at the DOW directory the public cannot tell this.

The Division of Water suggests that interested drillers contact the Kentucky Groundwater Association and request them to compile a directory that would supply this information and advertise for you on their website.

## **The Water Well Drillers Certification Renewal period for 2016-2017 Ends** **Groundwater Staff**

The annual renewal certification period has ended. If you did not renew your water well or monitoring well driller's certification you can no longer legally drill water wells and or monitoring wells within the boundaries of Kentucky. If you allow your certification to lapse for two years or more you will have to retake the Kentucky exam in order to renew your certification. You will also have to provide proof of annual training during your lapsed certification period along with a current certificate of liability insurance and proof of \$5,000.00 surety bond in order to renew your water well and or monitoring well certification.

Since January of 2016 the Division of Water has certified sixty-four monitoring well drillers, twenty-eight water well drillers and fifty-seven combined water well and monitoring well drillers. Eight of these certified drillers are new to the program. Please help us welcome into the fold the following newly certified drillers.

Name	Company	Certification
Matthew Bailey	Contract Dewatering Services	Water
Robert Hamilton	Frontz Drilling	Both
Bradley High	American Engineers, Inc.	Monitoring
Brent Jones	RA Simmons Drilling	Both
Jeremy Leckrone	Frontz Drilling	Both
Greg Thompson	Stantec	Monitoring
Lonnie Wanstrath	Geotechnology Formerly Thelen Associates, Inc.	Monitoring
Frederick Wonitzek	SRW Environmental Services, Inc.	Monitoring

**2016 Well Drillers’ Certification Program Board Meetings**

**Groundwater Staff**

The next meeting of the Water Well Drillers Certification Program Board will be held September 23, 2016 at 09:00 EST at the Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park near Buckhorn, Kentucky. On the agenda will be discussions of old and new business including geothermal driller certification, apprentice drillers, modifications of drilling regulations by the Energy and Environment Cabinet, and board member terms. All board meetings are open to the public and drillers; if you would like to attend please let us know so we can make room for you.

**Right Equipment for the Job as Opposed to Variance Requests**

By Scotty Robertson

Recently a driller called the Division of Water wanting to get an emergency variance. When I inquired as to what the emergency was, he informed me it was because he was unable to over-drill the monitoring wells on site with the equipment he had brought to do the job. The Division does not issue variance requests for these type of emergencies.

If you contracted to do a job you should have the equipment to perform the tasks you contracted to do. If not you should at minimum make arrangements to account for these shortcomings in advance, not while on site or after you completed the task in question. A **preapproved** variance request is required for any construction, modification or abandonment of a water or monitoring well that is not in compliance with the existing regulations.

For instance, if you contract to abandon monitoring wells completed one hundred feet into the Ohio River Alluvium, make sure the drill rig you bring to the job is capable of turning the drill bit in that medium and the tools are of a size required to over-drill the well to the desired depth. A truck mounted direct push drill rig with a three-inch diameter hollow stem auger is probably not the tool to over-drill a twelve inch diameter borehole that had a four-inch diameter PVC casing and screen monitoring well that was completed at a 100 feet in depth.

If you have been requested to abandon a two-inch diameter monitoring well that was installed with a six or eight-inch diameter air hammer in a cherty limestone, without centralizers to a hundred foot depth, then a sonic drill rig capable of drilling a four or six-inch diameter core is probably not the correct tool for a project of this type. This is because the well bore and /or casing may not be installed completely vertical to the surface. A drill bit and tool line may be directed off, of vertical if it strikes a hard object like a chert nodule. A schedule 40 casing may bend and twist with the borehole if centralizers were not used. Over Drilling with a sonic drill tool will probably stay on the vertical and drill straight down. If the well casing is not true and centered in the boring, the sonic drill system will cut through the casing leaving part of the casing and or screen in place. So it pays to know the limitations of the tools you are using, along with the site conditions.

If you want to install a two inch outside diameter casing in a well with a Hollow Stem Auger (has) then the auger must have a 4 ¼ inch inside diameter to create the proper diameter borehole. A six-inch borehole created by a sonic drill rig bit and barrel would not create a proper size borehole for this installation.

Always remember to plan ahead.

Guidewires, structures or other obstructions installed after a well was completed are acceptable reasons for a certified driller to submit the variance requests. Safety issues like powerlines or overhanging trees are also acceptable reasons to submit a variance request. Installing a well within setback requirements from a septic tank may be granted if deeper casing or different sealing materials are incorporated into the well design. The DOW will even grant blanket variances for sites that meet certain requirements. As long as the installation, modification, or abandonment method or design is proven to be as protective of the groundwater as those described in the regulations, variances are generally approved.

Variance requests are intended to be a means to assist the driller when circumstances do not allow the well to be constructed, modified, or abandoned by the practices and standards outlined in the regulations. They allow for an alternate designs and methods of well

construction, modification, or abandonment that are just as protective of the groundwater as those required by the regulations.

The driller is responsible for making this argument for the variance. Consultants are not the certified driller of record and as such, are not allowed to sign the variance requests and should not be the person contacting the Division of Water with questions. Variance requests require the drillers and the property owners signatures because they only are the responsible parties.

## **Memorial**



Keith Max Campbell, 61, passed away January 29, 2016. Mr. Campbell, was a Water Well Driller for Campbell's Well Drilling, he died Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at McKenzie Regional Hospital. He was born on August 21, 1954 in McKenzie, TN to Henry Max and Geraldine Mann Campbell. He was a member of Union Grove Baptist and McKenzie First United Methodist Church. He was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his wife of 38 years Betsy Hall Campbell, two sons Brian Keith (Megan) Campbell and Brad Thomas (Courtnei) Campbell also a certified water well driller, two grandsons Hudson Max Campbell and Xander Johnsey Campbell, two sisters Beverly (Pat) McNeil and Letha (Eddie) Basford all of McKenzie, TN. The Groundwater Section would like to express its condolences to his family and friends.

### **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/>

The Energy and Environment Cabinet does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or disability and provides, on request, reasonable accommodations including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in all services, programs and activities.