



WATER WELL REGISTRATION FAQs



WHAT IS CONSIDERED A WATER WELL FOR THE PURPOSE OF REGISTRATION?

- Any excavation that is constructed to explore or monitor groundwater, obtain hydrogeologic information, or extract water from, or inject fluid into an underground water reservoir.

WHAT WATER WELLS ARE REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED?

- All water wells must be registered with the Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR).
- Test holes and dewatering wells used for less than 90 days and domestic wells older than Sept. 9, 1993, do not require registration, but can be!

WHEN ARE WATER WELLS REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED?

- Water wells need to be registered within 60 days after construction.

WHY ARE WATER WELLS REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED?

- Complete information as to the occurrence and the use of groundwater is essential to the development of a sound groundwater policy.

WHERE CAN I GO TO CHECK ON MY WATER WELL REGISTRATION?

- The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources interactive webpage. [QR code below](#)

WHO IS ABLE TO REGISTER NEW WATER WELLS?

- Whoever constructs the water well is obligated to register the well, whether it is the land owner or the licensed well driller. These are the only two persons who may legally drill a water well.

WHEN SHOULD I MODIFY MY REGISTRATION?

- The licensed water well contractor or pump installation contractor is responsible for notifying the department within 60 days of any pump installation or modifications.
- The owners of the water well should notify the department within 60 days of any other changes or inaccuracies in recorded water well information.

WHO IS ABLE TO CHANGE THE REGISTRATION OF AN EXISTING WATER WELL?

- The owner of the water well.

WHAT AGENCY PERMITS THE CONSTRUCTION OF GROUNDWATER WELLS?

- Natural Resources Districts (NRD) maybe responsible for permitting the construction of groundwater wells as well as cities or counties.

FIND YOUR LOCAL NRD HERE:



WHAT AGENCY ESTABLISHES THE RULES ON WELL PUMPING?

- Natural Resources Districts (NRDs) are responsible for establishing the rules for well pumping.

Look for Your Water Well here:



NeDNR:



WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT WELL CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS AND DECOMMISSIONING A WELL?

- The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) operates the Water Well Standards Program and has rules for these activities.

NeDEE:



MOST NRDS OFFER A COST SHARE FOR WELL DECOMMISSIONING