

Wyoming Water Well Contractors' Newsletter

NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



IN THIS ISSUE:

Director News	1
Contract Use	1
Monthly Report	2
Calendar/Events	3
Local Regulations	4

Hello Everyone-

On July 17, an irrigation canal tunnel collapsed near Fort Laramie Wyoming, cutting water off to roughly 100,000 acres of farmland. No water mixed with a recent heat wave threatens to leave crops dry and impact the livelihoods of local farmers. On July 22, Governor Mark Gordon declared a state of emergency to help aid famers in the area. While work is underway to repair the collapsed tunnel, farmers are waiting to hear if crop insurance will aid them in projected lost revenue. Repairs are projected to be completed in the next week or two.

I would like to send best wishes to anyone affected by this collapse. I know a number of our contractors live in that area of the state, and some I'm sure farm there or know families that do. It's hard to imagine just a few weeks ago we were talking about flooding, and now tens of thousands of acres are in jeopardy of drying up with no water. Hopefully, repairs are completed quickly and water can be turned back on before they are completely lost.

Everyone stay cool and hydrated this month-
Jimmy Gordon

Consider using contracts with your customers-

"Quality or Quantity" you all know what that phrase means. You as water well contractors cannot guarantee your customers good water, or water at all when you are hired to drill a well or set a pump. I would encourage all our contractors to adopt the use of contracts with all of your customers. A well written contract sets up the expectations for both the customer and the contractor. This eliminates the vast majority of negative experiences after work is completed. There are samples available online and obviously customization to your particular company and type of work is recommended. Not only does a contract help the well owner know what to expect, it also provides the contractor assurance the well is permitted (require permit number(s) be listed on the contract). A well written contract will set the expectations on quality and quantity before work even begins.

State Board of
Examining Water Well
Drilling Contractors and
Water Well Pump
Installation Contractors

Website:
wwcb.state.wy.us
email:wwcb@wyo.gov

Jimmy Gordon
Executive Director
1201 E 7th Street,
Suite 103
Powell, WY 82435

Cell:
(307) 851-7770

Fax:
(888) 988-1322

E-Mail:
jimmy.gordon@wyo.gov



WWCB Monthly Report

The Water Well Contracting Board will hold its next Board meeting on September 4th, 2019 10:00am. at the State Engineer's Conference room W280, Herschler Building, in Cheyenne.



**Wyoming State Board of
Examining Water Well
Drilling Contractors and
Water Well Pump
Installation Contractors**

-New study shows wells being drilled deeper than ever-

Wells across the country are going dry or being drilled deeper according to a recent study published by researchers in the journal *Nature Sustainability*.

The study covered groundwater use and analyzed data from nearly 12 million wells across the country with some of the records studied dating back decades. The wells studied were a mix of domestic, industrial, and agricultural use.

While it is known overusing groundwater is causing some wells to go dry, the researchers from the University of California-Santa Barbara found that drilling wells deeper for those who could afford it was happening all around the country.

Researchers Debra Perrone and Scott Jasechko found new wells are getting deeper between 1.4 and 9.2 times as often as they are being drilled shallower.

They also found 79 percent of the areas they looked at showed well-deepening trends growing between 1950 to 2015. The study found that the most significant areas were California's Central Valley, the High Plains of southwestern Kansas, and the Atlantic Coastal Plain, among other regions.

"We were surprised how widespread deeper well drilling is," Jasechko said.

The reason for the deeper wells was not just overuse. Some were drilled deeper to avoid contamination issues coming from the surface, while some wells were drilled deep due to the geology of the area.

Regardless, the researchers don't think deep wells is a long-term solution. Increased cost and energy are two deterrents. They added some areas, especially rural communities, are vulnerable to wells going dry.

"What we're finding is that in places where water levels are declining, some people are drilling deeper, maybe to avoid having their primary water supply go dry," Perrone said. "Regardless of the reasons why Americans are drilling deeper, we suggest that deeper well drilling is an unsustainable stopgap to groundwater depletion."

This article appeared on ngwa.org on July 24, 2019

NDA	On-Line Certification Exams	Website	https://nda4u.com
AGWT	Educational Videos and Books	Website	www.AGWT.org
ISWD	International School of Well Drilling Online Courses	Website	welldrillingschool.com
NGWA	Selection of Meters for Water Well Pumps (7132-1)	Website	Online self-paced course
TLC	Technical Learning College	Website	Self-paced courses
WWWCB September Board Meeting		State Engineers Office Cheyenne, WY	September 4, 2019 10:00 A.M.
NDA	NDA 2019 Convention www.nda4u.com/convention for registration & details	Herndon, VA	September 26-27, 2019
NGWA	Ground Water Week-Convention www.groundwaterweek.com for registration & details	Las Vegas, NV	December 3-5, 2019
WGWA	WGWA 2019 Convention www.wywaterwell.org/convention for registration & details	Ramkota Casper, WY	January 15-17, 2020



KEY

WGWA – Wyoming Ground Water Association
 NDA – National Drilling Association
 NGWA – National Ground Water Association
 NWDA – Nebraska Well Drillers Association
 CWWCA – Colorado Water Well Contractors Association
 WARWS – Wyoming Association of Rural Water Systems
 WWA- Wyoming Water Association
 WWQ & PCA – Wyoming Water Quality & Pollution Control Association
 WWWCB – Wyoming Water Well Contractors Licensing Board

BIDP – Baroid Industrial Drilling Products
 AGWT – American Ground Water Trust
 SEDC – Shallow Exploration Drillers Clinic
 IGWA – Idaho Ground Water Ass. Inc.
 ISWD – International School of Well Drilling
www.welldrillingschool.com
 CPS - CPS Distributors
 Goulds - Goulds Water Technology Factory
 School WebEx Training
 Technical Learning College
www.abctlc.com

For continuing education opportunities please refer to each respective association’s website for additional information.

Natrona County License Requirements-

It has recently been brought to my attention that Natrona County requires contractors who make connections between a water supply and a dwelling to obtain either a "Utility Contractor License" or a "Utility Installer License". This DOES NOT apply to contractors who install pumps into private water wells. However, if a contractor connects the well to the dwelling, they are required to obtain the license to complete this work in Natrona County. If you have any questions or need to apply for a license in Natrona County, please contact the county Planning & Development Department at (307) 235-9435.

This is a good reminder for all contractors' state wide to be mindful of local county, and municipality rules and regulations. I encourage all contractors to research their local departments to make sure you are operating within the local governments guidelines.

