

Wyoming Water Well Contractor's Newsletter

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New Executive Director

Hello everyone! My name is Sheri Culver. I was hired as the new Executive Director for the State Board of Examining Water Well Drilling Contractors & Water Well Pump Installation Contractors on April 24, 2017. A few of you may recognize my name. I worked for the State Engineer's Office, Ground Water Division for the last 20 years. Through the years, I've spoken with

quite a few of you over the phone answering questions concerning water rights, how to complete the various Ground Water forms, and conducting water right searches. I am now excited to be able to help you with questions you may have for the Wyoming Water Well Contractors Board. **Please** do not hesitate to give me a call, or stop by the office, even if it's just to say, Hi!

I thought I would share with you one of my recent experiences in my new position. A couple of weeks ago, Inspector Chuck Wilson and I decided to head out into the field.

Continued on page 2

WSGS Launches Online Groundwater Atlas of Wyoming

A wide range of information about Wyoming's groundwater can now be found on an interactive online map recently launched by the Wyoming State Geological Survey (WSGS). The new Groundwater Atlas of Wyoming will enable users to obtain basic groundwater data quickly, which will be helpful in an arid state where groundwater is used extensively for domestic, agricultural and industrial purposes.

"The groundwater atlas is another example of the Wyoming State Geological Survey's efforts to provide ready access to important and useful geologic data and information to as many people and entities as possible," says Tom Drean, WSGS director.

The online atlas offers an easy-to-use digital format that combines publicly available datasets from the Wyoming State Engineer's Office (WSEO), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the Wyoming Water Development Commission (WWDC). Datasets used in the initial release of the atlas are WSEO groundwater well permits, USGS produced and environmental water quality, USGS hydrologic units with links to WWDC basin plan groundwater reports, spring locations digitized from USGS topographic maps and hydrostratigraphic characteristics of Wyoming's bedrock geology by the USGS, WSGS and WWDC. Data from WSGS groundwater projects, such as the recent Statewide Groundwater Baseflow Study, are presented in the atlas as well. Reference base layers include roads, political boundaries, surface hydrology, township ranges and general geologic data.

"The groundwater atlas brings together commonly used groundwater information from several agencies to help users quickly find out what public data is available in their area of interest," says Jim Stafford, WSGS resource analyst and author of the atlas.

Research features of the map include the ability to search for WSEO groundwater rights by permit number, location, depth, use type and status. Additionally, users can search USGS produced water sites based on water quality and obtain hydrologic information for specific geologic formations in Wyoming's major river basins. The attributes for all features are viewable, and results of queries and manual selections are available for download in tabular format. When a user zooms in on a map location, more detailed data appears along with labels for well depth, static water level and water quality. A popup provides instructions to users upon launching the map. An information panel with dataset descriptions and links to original data sources is also available.

The Groundwater Atlas of Wyoming will be updated frequently to enhance ease of use and as new data becomes available. The atlas is free to use and can be found via the WSGS website.

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

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Congratulations to the New Licensees!

WELL & PUMP

Samuel Wulf,
Peterson Drilling, Inc.,
Kearney, NE.

WELL

John Hanson,
JKA Pumping Services,
Inc., Newcastle, WY

PUMP

Steve Nisly,
SK Land & Cattle Co, LLC,
Rawlins, WY

DID YOU KNOW

The Notice of Intent can be submitted Online. Enter the following link in your search browser to see how easy it can be: <http://wwcb.state.wy.us/commencementnotice.aspx>



New Executive Director, continued from Page 1

This would serve two purposes, to introduce me to some of the well drillers in the area and to show me the various drilling techniques some of the local drillers use. We really couldn't have picked a worse day...it was raining and cold. I don't know what the heck I was thinking, because I wasn't truly properly dressed for the weather. Our first stop was at Johnnie Christensen's rig (Rock Creek Drilling). We stood in the rain for awhile visiting with Mr. Christensen while watching him rotary drill a new well. I got a little wet and a little chilled, but not too bad. We headed over to watch Wes Moody (All Around Drilling). He was air drilling a well and I hadn't seen that process before. We stood out in the cool, chilled air, while Mr. Moody explained the method of air drilling. He invited me back the following day to see what it looked like when they hit water. I agreed to come back, but thought to myself on the way into town (with the heated seat turned on), I'm going to be a little more prepared for the weather since we were still expecting rain tomorrow. I went home that night and packed my bib overalls and rain gear...I was going to be prepared for the weather! The following day, I coordinated with Mr. Moody what time I should show up at the drill site. When the time came, I jumped in the state vehicle and headed out to the site. Halfway there, I realized I had forgotten my jacket and bib overalls in my personal vehicle! It hadn't started to rain, so I crossed my fingers and hoped for the best; I didn't want to be late! I stood at the site about 2 minutes when it started to drizzle. REALLY!? I had my hard hat on which kept a good portion of the rain off of me, but I was still getting wet and it seemed like the temperature was dropping. I wondered how Wes and his helper Gene kept warm. As I stood there, it didn't take me long to figure out I better stand back. The well was burping and spitting mud everywhere! I continued watching for some time when all of a sudden Wes jumped from the rig as the well blew like Old Faithful! I wasn't quick enough to get out of the way and was splattered with drilling mud. As I drove back to the office later that day (with the heater on high) I wondered how I would ever get the inside of the vehicle clean. By the time I got back to the office the mud had somewhat dried and I was able to brush the majority off of my clothes. I received several comments from my co-workers on the way I looked and even had one decide I was worth taking a picture of... I've looked worst, but thought I would at least share the picture with all of you so you can put a face to the name.

Thank you to all of you who provide a great service to the citizens of Wyoming!



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE answers on Page 3

1. In the State of Wyoming the proper distance from the well to the septic tank is?
2. A Type II, or natural filter well, is usually completed into a unconfined aquifer?
3. In Wyoming, when changing a pump, the drop pipe and wire should be kept off the ground to prevent what?

Calendar of Events: June & July

Continuing education opportunities for June and July: The codes in the first column are as follows:

WWWA – Wyoming Water Well 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

The topic, date, time, and location are given. Please refer to each respective association's website for more information on how to register, and/or for future educational opportunities.

BIDP – Baroid Industrial Drilling Products

AGWT – American Ground Water Trust

SEDC – Shallow Exploration Drillers Clinic

ISWD – International School of Well Drilling

CPS - CPS Distributors

Goulds - Goulds Water Technology Factory School WebEx Training

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Upcoming Events

AGWT	Educational Videos and Books	Website	WWW.AGWT.org
ISWD	International School of Well Drilling Online Courses	Website	welldrillingschool.com
NGWA	Introduction to Groundwater Resources (#1012)	Website	Online self-paced course
NGWA	Selection and Operation of Meters for Safe and Successful Electrical Troubleshooting for Water Well Pump Systems (#7132-1)	Website	Online self-paced course
UGWA	Utah Ground Water Association 2017 Moab PED & Summer Retreat	Website	June 09, 2017
AGWT	New Mexico Aquifer Conference	Albuquerque, NM	July 12, 2017
NGWA	Pumping Test Design and Aquifer Analysis (short course 192)	Westerville, Ohio	July 18-19, 2017
WWWCB	Board Meeting (Teleconference)	Cheyenne, WY	July 27, 2017
WWWA	Board Meeting	Lander, WY	July 28, 2017

Answers to Test Your Knowledge from page 2

1. 50 feet (SEO Water Well Minimum Construction Standards, Page 3-2)
2. True (SEO Water Well Minimum Construction Standards, Page 3-2)
3. Bacterial contamination (SEO Water Well Minimum Construction Standards, Page 4-1)