



The Driller's Digest

Published by the
N.C. Well Contractors Certification Commission

Volume 12 | Fall/Winter Issue

November | 2010

New Commission Member

At the N.C. Well Contractors Certification Commission's Aug. 10 meeting, Carl Parsons was sworn in by Judge Martha Geer to replace Bill Hamlin whose term had expired.

Parsons retired from the Guilford County Health Department in February 2009 with 32 years of service. While with Guilford County, he was the Water Quality Unit manager in the Environmental Health unit, and gained experience with well and septic issues.

His accomplishments include establishing the Guilford County well program in 1989 and being an integral part of subsequent rule revisions. He also was key in starting the Guilford County Well Contractor Day in 2003, which has been an annual event since and attracts as many as 125 well contractors each year.



Mr. Parsons being sworn in by Judge Geer.

Geothermal Licensing Agreement Reached

The N.C. Well Contractors Certification Commission and the N.C. State Board of Examiners of Plumbing, Heating and Fire Sprinkler Contractors (Board) have reached an agreement regarding overlapping licensing requirements pertaining to geothermal heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems that use vertical loops. Trench systems are not included, as digging trenches is not a well contractor activity.

The loops are considered part of the HVAC system and thus require an H-2 or H-3 license holder to install them. Drilling the borehole, installation of the loops and the specialty grout are also well contractor activities requiring well contractor certification.

Effective Oct. 15, this agreement allows a North Carolina certified well contractor who has successfully completed International Ground Source Heat Pump

Association certification to install the geothermal loops (drill and grout the borehole, and install the piping in the borehole) without the H-2 or H-3 licensee present upon written agreement by both parties. The agreement must specify the depth, diameter, material and thickness of the vertical piping and the number and location of wells necessary for the particular heating or cooling system by the H-2 or H-3 contractor or a licensed mechanical engineer.

Bidding on an HVAC job still requires an H-2 or H-3 licensee. The vertical loops portion of the project can then be subcontracted out to a North Carolina certified well contractor.

The full text of the memorandum of agreement between the board and NCWCCC may be viewed online at: www.ncwelldriller.org under "FAQ's/Clarifications."

We're Moving!!

On July 1, the NCWCCC was transferred by the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources from the state Division of Water Quality to the state Division of Environmental Health.

The move to DEH requires a physical move of the WCCC offices from 219 E. North St., Raleigh, to 2728 Capital Blvd., Raleigh. The move is planned to take place Nov. 15. The new mailing address and telephone numbers will be posted on the NCWCCC website, www.ncwelldriller.org, once available.

Chap. 27 Rule Changes

The NCWCCC is in the process of making changes to the Chapter 27 Well Contractor Certification Rules.

Public hearings will be held to receive feedback on the proposed changes. Dates and locations for these hearings will be posted online at: www.ncwelldriller.org as soon confirmation is received to move forward to that part of the rulemaking process via publication in the North Carolina Register.

Tentative dates and locations are as follows:

- Jan. 6, 2011; 11-12 Noon
NCSU Lake Wheeler Training Facility
4000 Chi Rd; Raleigh, NC
- Jan. 13, 2011; 11-12 Noon
DENR Asheville Regional Office –
Main Conference Room
2090 US Hwy 70; Swannanoa, NC
- Jan. 20, 2011; 11-12 Noon
DENR Washington Regional Office –
Main Conference Room
943 Washington Square Mall;
Washington, NC

Finalized dates will be posted online at: www.ncwelldriller.org. This is your opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed changes. These hearings are for discussing Chapter 27 rules only. This is not a venue for discussion of 2C well construction rules, county rules or any other non-related topics.

26th Annual NCSU On-Site Water Protection Conference

For the first time since its creation, the NCWCC awarded scholarships to six people to attend the 26th Annual On-site Water Protection Conference. This conference was sponsored by and held at North Carolina State University on Oct. 18-20 in Raleigh.

Scholarships to cover the cost of registration, valued at \$195, were awarded to the following North Carolina certified well contractors:

Joseph Bailey,
of Lenoir County;

Ricky Bass,
of Nash County;

Billy Casper,
of Lenoir County;

Luis Gonzalez,
of Alamance County;

Larry Ward,
of Wake County and

Milton Ward
of Brunswick County.

The conference provided continuing education, exhibits and networking opportunities for various professions, including environmental health specialists, professional engineers and designers, certified planners, certified operators, certified well contractors, certified installers and inspectors, and many more. It also included additional tours in various locations across North Carolina.

As many as 17 professional development hours were pre-approved for N.C. certified well contractors who attended the conference. Topics included well construction standards, water softener function and operation, memorandum of agreement between the state divisions of Environmental Health and Water Quality, trouble-shooting well issues, business operation improvement, and various other soil and waste water courses.

Next year's conference will be held Oct. 11-13. For more information, visit www.onsiteconferencenc.org.

PDH Exemption Ends

G.S. 87-98.12 provides an exemption from the continuing education requirement for well contractors 70 or older who have been engaged in well contractor activities for more than 20 years and have had no violations in the past 10 years.

G.S. 87-98.12 sunseted Sept. 1, meaning the exemption is no longer in effect. Those who have relied upon it must now

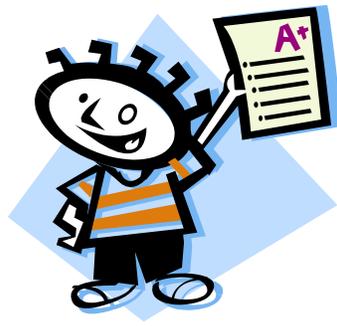
obtain eight professional development hours, or PDH, in order to renew their well contractor certification.

The deadline for earning PDH is June 30 each year. If you are new to earning continuing education do not wait until June to start looking. Eight PDH are required by all levels of certified well contractors each year. Visit the NCWCCC

website at: www.ncwelldriller.org, and click on the link "Continuing Education" for ideas on finding PDH and other related forms.

Remember, well contractors are allowed to carry as many as eight PDH into a renewal year as carry over. Be sure to use this to your advantage.

Hours, Hours and More Hours!!!



by Cassandra Champion, REHS, NCWC, WCCC Commissioner

Continuing education hours or professional development hours must be obtained each year. Well contractors are required to obtain eight hours of continuing education each year and are allowed to carry over eight additional hours to the next renewal year. The fee and renewal form showing your hours must be received by the NCWCCC by June 30 each year.

I know it can be challenging to find interesting classes each year. I have to obtain 15 hours to meet my registered environmental health specialist criteria, eight hours for N.C. Well Contractors certification, and 36 hours to maintain my emergency medical technician and firefighter certification. That is a total of 59 hours! Fortunately, some of these hours cross over between registrations, certifications and licenses, but I feel like I am in class all the time.

If you, like me, need continuing education for multiple licenses, keep in mind you may be able to use some classes for more than one of those licenses. Finding topics that are interesting and aid in growing your business truly maximizes your time.

The "Continuing Education" page on the NCWCCC website, www.ncwelldriller.org, is a great resource for helping you find interesting and approved continuing education classes.

If you find a class in which you are interested but it is not listed on the

NCWCCC website as approved, send in an approval request form (WCC-8) prior to attending the class. This allows you to know before taking the class if it will be approved and reduce potential delays in processing your attendance once you complete the class. The WCC-8 Form and meeting dates for review of course submissions is posted online at: www.ncwelldriller.org.

If a well contractor does not obtain the required amount of continuing education hours, he may lose his certification and be unable to work until he has passed the certification exam. It is much easier to maintain those eight hours. Make the most of the carry over option available to you. Stay ahead with your continuing education to avoid the stress of finding classes at the last minute and risking your certification.

If you need assistance with finding a class, contact the NCWCCC staff at (919) 715-9135 as they will be glad to assist you.



Summary of Civil Penalty Assessments

Penalties for violations of NCGS Chapter 87, Article 7 and 7A vary depending upon the particular facts and circumstances present in each case. Note: only finalized uncontested cases or cases not seeking remission and at the collection stage are included in this list. Payment of fines and corrections of violations may already have occurred.

Larry Oliver

Johnston County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$500.

Effective 5/5/10. Case # WCC 016-09.

Mickey Casteel

Wake County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000.

Effective 5/6/10, Case # WCC 014-09.

Albert Sumner, Jr.

Moore County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$250.

Effective 5/7/10. Case # WCC 001-10.

Albert Sumner, Jr.

Moore County. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of \$250.

Effective 5/7/10. Case # WCC 002-10.

WCCC Disciplinary Committee

Percy West, Jr. – Effective 6/23/10

For violations of 2C .0100 Well Construction Standards. The well contractor was given a letter of reprimand.

Bruce Brazill – Effective 7/28/10

For violations of Article 7A and Chapter 27. The well contractor was given a letter of reprimand.

Commission Members

Tom Ammons, NCWC – Red Springs

Paul Weller – Rougemont

Casey Champion, REHS, NCWC – Oxford

Carl Parsons, REHS – Greensboro

Chris Dickey, NCWC, Vice Chairman – Murphy

John Boyette, Jr., NCWC, – Wilson

John Nykamp, REHS, NCWC, Chairman – Greensboro

N.C. Division of Water Quality

Aquifer Protection Section

<http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/aps>

Asheville 828-296-4500
 Fayetteville 910-433-3300
 Mooresville 704-663-1699
 Raleigh 919-791-4200
 Washington 252-946-6481
 Wilmington 910-796-7215
 Winston-Salem 336-771-5000

WCCC Staff

(N.C. Division of Environmental Health)

Lora McKinney (renewal and application payments, meetings, oral exams, general information)	Lora.McKinney@ncdenr.gov	(919) 715-9134
Drew Morgan, REHS (enforcement, Level A field observation, applications)	Andrew.Morgan@ncdenr.gov	(919) 715-9136
Joanne Rutkofske (continuing education, website, rulemaking, contracts, exam review)	Joanne.Rutkofske@ncdenr.gov	(919) 715-9135
Ted Lyon (supervisor)	Ted.Lyon@ncdenr.gov	(919) 715-3274

N.C. Division of Environmental Health

On-Site Water Protection Section
 Private Well Branch
<http://www.deh.enr.state.nc.us/osww>

Western Regional Specialist
 John Brooks 828-713-3355
 Northern Regional Specialist
 Wilson Mize 919-218-5383
 Southern Regional Specialist
 David Eudy 919-218-7867
 (A map of the Private Well Branch's regional staff can be found online at: www.ncwelldriller.org under "County Programs")

Certification Numbers Update

Total number certified 1,363
 Total number of applicants for certification 80
 Certifications currently suspended 0

The Driller's Digest

Volume 12 | Fall/Winter Issue
 November | 2010



North Carolina Well Contractors Certification Commission

1653 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1653
 Telephone: (919) 715-9134 Fax: (919) 715-9433

Please Note – The Well Contractors Certification Office moved November 15. Please note our new address and phone number. Contact information is also posted on www.ncwelldriller.org

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Online at: www.ncwelldriller.org

Report uncertified well contractors to the local health department, or call (919) 715-9136.