

The Driller's Digest

Volume 11, Spring/Summer Issue

March 2010

Published by the North Carolina Well Contractors Certification Commission



In This Issue:

Funding Assistance for Wells	1
Passing of the Gavel	1
Summary of Enforcement Actions	2
Pump Installation Information Plate	2
Additional Funding Sources	3
Where Does My GW-1 Go?	3
Commission Members & Staff	3
Certification Numbers Update	3
NC Division of Water Quality- APS	3
Commission Member Changes	4

This newsletter is published as a service to certified well contractors and others in the groundwater industry. Suggestions for articles for publication in the newsletter are welcome.

Funding Assistance for Wells

By Daniel Lawson, Southeast RCAP

We have some exciting news that will likely be of interest to you and/or someone you know! Here at **Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc.** we currently have a program that helps low-income rural residents who may not otherwise be able to afford a well at this time acquire one. Households in the state of North Carolina that have an income below the median level of \$57,000 (this may vary somewhat based on the county) could be eligible for one of our individual well loans.

In our well loan program, we extend loans up to \$11,000 at 1% interest in order to fund installation of individual household wells or some well repairs. Shortly after an applicant is approved, we notify the contractor that

they may begin the well work. Once finished, the contractor submits completed paperwork to Southeast RCAP, Inc. Then, Southeast RCAP, Inc. will pay the contractor the full amount of the invoice. The process makes things quick and easy for the well drillers and is very helpful to people in need of water.

Southeast RCAP, Inc. is a private non-profit company and our Well Loan Program is an effort to help people who are without water obtain this necessity. Spread the word of our program. We can get water to people in need and bring business to your company at the same time. We also have Well Loan Flyers available to help spread the word. Thank you for your time and we look forward to working with you!

Daniel Lawson, Loan Fund Coordinator
Southeast RCAP, Inc.
P.O. Box 2868; Roanoke, VA 24001
540.345.1184 ext. 135; 540.342.2932 fax

Passing of the Gavel

By Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff



Greg Bright being presented his second plaque by chairman John Nykamp in appreciation for his dedication and commitment to the people and natural resources of our state through his service to the WCCC

Greg Bright is one of the original Commissioners, helping bring the Well Contractors Certification Commission into being. He has served 4 terms on the Commission and has served as chairman multiple times.



Photo op with Greg and Buck Demarest

Summary of Civil Penalty Assessments

Penalties for violations of NCGS Chapter 87, Article 7 & 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).

Robert Fleming

Wake County, NC. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of two thousand dollars(\$2,000.00).

Effective Date 1/5/10 Case # WCC 005-09

Bill Nagel

Watauga County, NC. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of thirty-seven thousand dollars(\$37,000.00).

Effective Date 2/8/10 Case # WCC 010-09

Mickey Casteel

Wake County, NC. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of one thousand dollars(\$1,000.00).

Effective Date 10/19/09 Case # WCC 014-09

N. Lanard Love

Union County, NC. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of five hundred dollars(\$500.00).

Effective Date 10/19/09 Case # WCC 017-09

J. Cody Presley, Sr.

Cumberland County, NC. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of one hundred dollars(\$100.00) as recommended by the WCCC.

Effective Date 1/5/10 Case # WCC 019-09



J. Cody Presley, Sr.

Wayne County, NC. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of one hundred dollars(\$100.00) as recommended by the WCCC.

Effective Date 1/5/10 Case # WCC 020-09

J. Cody Presley, Sr.

Hoke County, NC. Allegations of contracting without the benefit of certification in violation of 15A NCAC 27. Assessed a civil penalty of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) as recommended by the WCCC.

Effective Date 1/5/10 Case # WCC 021-09

MidSouth Geothermal

Watauga County, NC. Allegations of failing to properly grout numerous geothermal wells to a minimum of 20 feet in violation of NCAC 2C .0200. Assessed a civil penalty of eighteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$18,500).

Effective Date 2/8/10 Case # 2C-2009-001

Pump Installation Information Plate

by Eric G. Smith, Hydrogeologist, DWQ

The North Carolina Well Construction Standards, 15A NCAC 2C.0100, state that when installing a pump one must attach a Pump Installation Information Plate that documents the date the pump was installed, the depth of the pump intake, and the horsepower rating of the pump. In addition to this information, the well contractor certification number of the person installing the pump must be stamped or engraved on the Pump Installation Information Plate.

With the passage of SB687, which exempts some plumbers from the certification requirement for the installation of well pumps, a new question on pump tags has emerged: If a plumber is exempt and is not certified as a well contractor, what do they put on the Pump Installation Information Plate?

It is now accepted by both the county health departments who permit and inspect private wells and the DWQ-Aquifer Protection Section that licensed plumbers place their five-digit plumber's license number followed by their licensure class on the Pump Installation Information Plate (e.g. 00000P1).

With people of different backgrounds now installing well pumps (well contractors, plumbers, homeowners), it is important for certified well contractors to make sure to include the "NCWC" prefix with their certification number on these tags.



Additional Funding Sources For Wells

by Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

The USDA and NGWA also have programs to assist low income homeowners with funding for new wells, repairs, and well abandonments.

USDA, Rural Development Housing Program, "504 Loan/Grant Program."

This program can provide a one-time grant of \$7,500 for homeowners 62 years of age and older. Loans of up to \$20,000 at 1% interest are also available, with no age restriction, for low-income homeowners that can't get the assistance elsewhere. For additional information on this program call their main office at 919-873-2060, and you will be directed to the appropriate local office for assistance.

National Ground Water Association (NGWA)

The NGWA has awarded funding to non-profits to establish household water well system revolving loan

(Continued on page 4)

Where Does My GW-1 Go?

by Michele Scott, IPU Supervisor

Michele Scott, Supervisor for the Information Processing Unit of the Division of Water Quality, has provided the following insight for us as to what happens to those GW-1's that are sent in to the State:

Upon receipt of the GW-1 Well Construction Record the following happens:

- Envelope is opened.
- Form is stamped with a unique serial number and "received date stamp."
- A copy of the original is made.
- The copy is forwarded to the Aquifer Protection Section regional office that oversees where the work was done.
- The information on the original is entered into a computer database. If there are any reporting issues that arise, staff will contact the Aquifer Protection Section for assistance.
- The original GW-1 is then filed by county and retained in the office for one year.
- GW-1's older than one year are sent to State Records Center where the information is transferred to microfilm.

If you need a new GW-1 form, you can link to it from www.ncwelldriller.org under "Forms."

North Carolina Well Contractors Certification Commission

1618 Mail Service Center / Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1618

Telephone: (919) 733-0026 Fax: (919) 715-9433

Commission Members

- Tom Ammons**, NCWC— Red Springs, NC
- Casey Champion**, REHS— Oxford, NC
- Chris Dickey**, NCWC— Murphy, NC
- Benford Graham**, NCWC- West End, NC
- Bill Hamlin**— Dobson, NC
- Bill Magette**, NCWC, **Vice Chairman** - Ahoskie, NC
- John Nykamp**, REHS, NCWC, **Chairman** - Greensboro, NC

WCCC Staff (DWQ / BOG / WCCC)

- Lora McKinney** (919) 733-0026 x0 (payments, meetings)
Lora.McKinney@ncdenr.gov
- Drew Morgan**, REHS (919) 733-0026 x302 (enforcement)
Andrew.Morgan@ncdenr.gov
- Jerry Rimmer** (919) 733-0026 x309 (Supervisor)
Jerry.Rimmer@ncdenr.gov
- Joanne Rutkofske** (919) 733-0026 x315 (CE, general info.)
Joanne.Rutkofske@ncdenr.gov

Certification Numbers Update

Total number certified.....1363
 Total number of applicants for certification.....96
 Certifications currently suspended.....0

NC Division of Water Quality Aquifer Protection Section (APS)

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

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

NC Division of Environmental Health On-Site Water Protection Section

<http://www.deh.enr.state.nc.us/osww>

- Western— John Brooks 828-713-3355
- Northern— Wilson Mize 919-218-5383
- Southern— David Eudy 919-218-7867

1500 copies of this document were printed at a cost of \$262.35 or \$0.18 each.

PUBLISHED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA WELL CONTRACTORS CERTIFICATION COMMISSION

1618 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1618

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Online at www.ncwelldriller.org

Commission Member Changes

by Joanne Rutkofske, WCC Staff

The North Carolina Well Contractors Certification Commission welcomes it's newest member, Cassandra "Casey" Champion. Casey is an Environmental



Health Specialist for the Granville-Vance Health District. Casey has nine years of experience with groundwater wells. She previously worked with Person County, then went into the private sector for one year and then came back to Granville County in 2007. Casey has a strong background in water treatment.

Above: Casey Champion being sworn in by Representative William L. Wainwright at the Dec. 8, 2009 meeting of the Well Contractors Certification Commission.

*Additional Funding Sources
(Continued from page 3)*

programs for low to moderate income households. Loans are typically for up to \$8,000 at 1% interest for 20 years. Nonprofits awarded funding that service North Carolina include:

NGWA- Foundation for Affordable Drinking Water. Contact Paul Humes at 800-551-7379 or go online at www.NGWA.org under "Foundation for Affordable Drinking Water."

Southeastern Rural Community Assistance Project. See page 1 article. Also information available online at www.sercap.org



A.M. Buck Demarest
June 23, 1948- December 26, 2009