

Cost-Share Assistance

Contact your county office of the Kansas Conservation Commission, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Local Environmental Protection Programs County Sanitarians (LEPP) about possible financial assistance cost-share funds to assist in abandoned well plugging, and to install replacement wells.

Helpful Contacts & Websites

Kansas Conservation Commission

(785) 296-3600

<http://www.accesskansas.org/ksc/kcd.html>

Kansas Natural Resources Conservation Service

(785) 823-4500

<http://www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov/AboutNRCS.html>

Local Environmental Protection Programs County Sanitarians

<http://www.kdhe.ks.gov/nps/lepp/lepp.html>

db/waterwell section/waterwells/PluggingAbandonedWells2011

District Offices

Southwest

Allen Guernsey, DEA

302 McArtor Rd.

Dodge City, KS 67801

(620) 225-0596

Satellite Office

313 West Oklahoma Ter.

Ulysses, KS 67880

(620) 356-1075

South Central

Allison Herring, DEA

130 S. Market, Suite 6050

Wichita, KS 67202

(316) 337-6020

Southeast

David Stutt, DEA

1500 W. 7th St.

Chanute, KS 66720

(620) 431-2390

Northwest

Dan Wells, DEA

2301 E. 13th

Hays, KS 67601

(785) 625-5663

North Central

Jennifer Nichols, DEA

2501 Market Place,

Suite D & E

Salina, KS 67401

(785) 827-9639

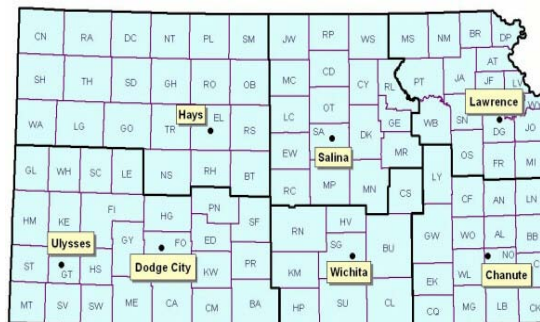
Northeast

Julie Coleman, DEA

800 W. 24th St.

Lawrence, KS 66046

(785) 842-4600



Bureau of Water Plugging Abandoned Wells



Geology Section - Water Well Unit
Charles Curtis State Office Building
1000 SW Jackson St., Suite 420
Topeka, KS 66612
(785) 296-3565

Email: rharper@kdhe.state.ks.us
Website: www.kdheks.gov/waterwell

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What is an Abandoned Well?

An abandoned well is a well whose use has been permanently discontinued or is in such a state of disrepair that obtaining groundwater from it is no longer practical. (KSU, 1989) There are more than an estimated 250,000 abandoned wells and test holes in Kansas that should be plugged.

Which Wells Should Be Plugged?

All abandoned wells in the state of Kansas must be plugged.

Why Plug An Abandoned Well?

- Prevent contamination of water source
- Remove the hazard of small children or animals falling into shaft
- Preventing sinkholes by restoring the stability of the land
- Prevent loss of head pressure for artesian aquifers, which could affect other wells
- Avoid potential liability for wells that could allow groundwater contamination

How to Identify Abandoned Wells?

- Local government and citizen organizations can help protect groundwater by searching for and mapping abandoned well locations.
- Community involvement through meetings or newspaper articles may help raise public awareness and initiate well plugging action.



How Can I Plug a Well Properly?

- The Kansas Department of Health and Environment encourages the use of a licensed water wells contractor to plug many wells. Call (785) 296-3565 or (785) 296-5524 for a list of licensed water well contractors.

- It may be practical for some wells to be properly plugged by the property owner. The property owner may contact KDHE for acceptable plugging methods and a list of approved grout materials to plug an abandoned well. The property owner may obtain a copy of the WWC-5 form from KDHE. The WWC-5 form needs to be sent to KDHE after plugging the well. Call KDHE at (785) 296-3565 or (785) 296-5524 for a WWC-5 form.

30 days after completion of plugging of well, you or your contractor (if you hired one) must complete a WWC-5 form and send it in to KDHE.

