

# AQWACAP

## Aquifer Quality Well Abandonment Cost-Share Assistance Program



## WELL DECOMMISSIONING

Wells that have not been properly decommissioned are a direct conduit for contaminants to gain entry into our drinking water.

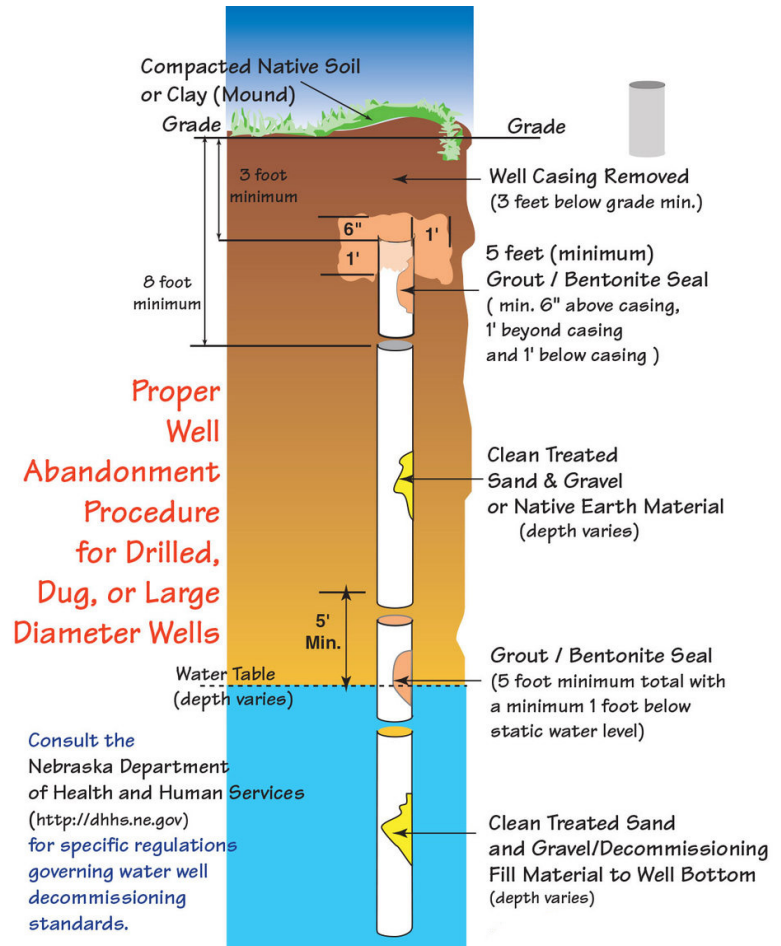
The Aquifer Quality Well Abandonment Cost-Share Assistance Program (AQWACAP) provides funds for proper decommissioning of wells.

Wells must be decommissioned according to Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services System regulations governing water well standards. All decommissioning activities must be conducted by a licensed contractor.

Effective July 1, 2024, the cost-share rate will be 60 percent of the actual cost of labor and materials. The maximum cost-share rates for the proper plugging of wells of various casing diameters is \$1,000.

Sealing a well involves three steps: filling, sealing, and capping. All work must be completed by a licensed contractor.

- The well pump and all above/below ground piping and equipment must be removed.
- A fill material, such as treated sand or gravel, is applied, followed by a layer of grout.
- A sanitary rubber seal caps the well.



All below ground pipe and any above ground pipe, tower or apparatus that may impede the plugging activity must be removed. Any cost incurred for this removal is not eligible for cost-share. The district may require that a representative be present during the actual plugging process. (This will be done on a random basis.)

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## APPLICATION PROCESS

The well owner must submit a completed Aquifer Quality Well Abandonment Cost-Share Assistance Program Application (this includes a United States Citizenship Attestation Form and W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification Form, in compliance with state and federal law). The well owner or his/her power of attorney must sign the completed forms.

Cost-share payments will only be made to one individual or entity. If there are multiple landowners, please complete information for only one individual or entity. Payment will be made according to the completed Taxpayer Identification Form (W-9).

The cost-share application must be approved by the Upper Big Blue NRD before work may begin. Please call the office if you need immediate assistance.

## CLAIM AND PAYMENT PROCESS

A copy of the licensed contractors itemized invoice for the well decommissioning must be provided to the Upper Big Blue NRD. All final payments must be approved by the Upper Big Blue NRD board of directors prior to payment.



*Dee Dee Novotny, NRD water data specialist, is here to answer your questions about AQWACAP. Contact her at [water@upperbigblue.org](mailto:water@upperbigblue.org) or call the office at (402) 362-6601.*



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