

## City of Madison – Private Well Abandonment Reimbursement Program

The purpose of the Well Abandonment ordinance, Madison General Ordinance Section 13.21, is to prevent groundwater contamination of the aquifer supplying City of Madison drinking water wells from unsafe, unused, or non-complying private wells. Effective January 1, 2010, the City of Madison will offer partial reimbursement of the costs to abandon a private domestic well. Generally, the city and water utility are authorized to reimburse up to fifty percent of the cost to abandon a well, to a maximum of \$1000. Reimbursements are limited to actual realized costs to fill and seal the well, and do not include the cost to connect to City water service, if applicable. Funds are limited and some restrictions may apply.

According to city ordinance, owners of private domestic wells must obtain, through the Madison Water Utility, a well operation permit in order to operate a private well located within the City of Madison or the Madison Water Utility service area. In the absence of a valid permit, operation of the private well must cease and the well shall be properly abandoned according to state code. Proper abandonment involves pulling the pumping equipment and filling the well/borehole with an approved, impermeable material. According to state code and city ordinance, the work must be completed by a licensed well driller or pump installer, and the Madison Water Utility must be given a minimum of 48 hours notice to schedule staff to witness the abandonment.

Periodically, an unused or improperly abandoned well is identified during a home inspection. Inspections of this nature often precede the transfer of real estate ownership but may also be initiated by the Madison Water Utility. Any unused or improperly abandoned well, regardless of how it was identified, must be properly abandoned according to the provisions in Wisconsin Administrative Code, Chapter NR 812. Furthermore, any private well which has not been used in the preceding twelve months must also be abandoned.

The following requirements must be met before any payment will be disbursed:

- Notification to the Water Utility, at least 48 hours prior to the abandonment, in order to allow staff to witness the abandonment
- Completed and signed application
- Original paid receipt from a licensed well driller or pump installer that indicates the location where the work was completed and an itemized list of the costs
- Submit to the Madison Water Utility a copy of the well abandonment form (DNR Form #3300-005: Well / Drillhole / Borehole Filling & Sealing). The original form must be submitted to the DNR within 10 days of the abandonment.

Please mail the completed application, original dated receipt, and any required paperwork to:



Madison Water Utility  
c/o Private Well Abandonment  
119 East Olin Avenue  
Madison, WI 53713





# City of Madison Private Well Abandonment Application for Reimbursement



Please read program rules before submitting.

## Applicant Information

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number – Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Cell \_\_\_\_\_

## Well Information

Address of well (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

Additional addresses served by well (if applicable):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Location of abandoned well:  Garage  Basement  Pit  Yard

Depth of well: \_\_\_\_\_ feet

Did the abandonment involve pulling the pumping equipment?  Yes  No

Type & amount of material used to fill & seal well: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of licensed professional who performed the work: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of well abandonment: \_\_\_\_\_ Total cost to abandon the well: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you apply for a well compensation grant and receive a *Letter of Approval* from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources?  Yes  No

## Reimbursement Agreement

I have read, understand, and agree to the terms and conditions of the Well Abandonment Reimbursement Program. By signing this form, I certify that the well located at the above mentioned address was abandoned by a licensed well driller or pump installer according to requirements of Wisconsin Adm. Code, Chapter NR 812. I further certify that the requested reimbursement is for actual out-of-pocket expenses only and that, once connected to the City water supply, a new well operation permit will not be issued for the property.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Water Utility Use Only:

WQ App \_\_\_\_\_ Fin App \_\_\_\_\_ Eng App \_\_\_\_\_ Amt \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_