WATER WELL CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When do I need a Well Construction Permit?

A Well Construction Permit is required to:

- · Construct a new well, or
- Repair, modify, or abandon an existing well.

What is the application procedure?

The Well Construction Permit application is a one-page form that can be filled out by a property owner, or as is usually the case, by a licensed Water Well Contractor.

Well construction permits can often be issued within a few days, if a Water Use Permit has already been issued, or if the project is exempt from Water Use Permits. For example, uses such as strictly domestic at a single family dwelling or duplex, strictly for firefighting, or from a saltwater source with chlorides at or above 19,000 mg/L do not require a WUP.

What are the fees for Water Well Construction Permits?

Well construction, repair, or modification permits issued by SFWMD are charged a fee of \$100. SFWMD does not charge a fee for well abandonment permits.

Delegated agencies set their own fees based on the cost of administering their permitting programs. Please contact the applicable agency directly for current fees: Well Permit Application Submittal Locations.

What information will I need to provide?

The information requested varies according to the type and complexity of each project. For example, a completed application for a well construction permit contains information such as:

- The name and address of the well owner,
- The name, address, and Water Well Contractor license number of the person who will be constructing the well,
- The location of the well,
- The intended use of the well water,
- The construction method that will be used to install the well,
- The diameter, casing material, casing depth and estimated total depth of the well,
- A site map showing the location of the well within the property boundaries,
- The water use permit (unless exempt) and the well number if the project has more than one well on-site,

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 The signature of the owner (or authorized agent) and the licensed Water Well Contractor.

How can I find information about the well on my property?

Water Well Contractors have been required to submit a Well Completion Report (WCR) for all wells since 1985. Some reports are available online, filed by Section, Township, and Range (S/T/R). S/T/R information can be found on the legal description of the property. Detailed instructions for the online search function are available on our website under Well Construction Permits/Contractor Licensing: Accessing Well Completion Reports. If the Well Construction Permit was issued by one of the Delegated Agencies, a WCR may not be available online through SFWMD. In that case, the Delegated Agency should have the WCR. A list of well submittal locations, as well as contact information at those locations is available on our website under Well Construction Permits/Contractor Licensing: Well Permit Application Submittal Locations.

Note: If you require information regarding a well that was drilled before 1985 you will need to contact a licensed Water Well Contractor to request that a well log be performed.

How can I find S/T/R information on a property?

This information is often available through the property appraiser website. Please see the Property Appraiser Website list for direction and link specifics. Within the South Florida Water Management District boundaries, all counties except Miami-Dade County, display section, township, and range information within the County Appraiser website.

- I want to install an irrigation well at my business. What kind of permits do I need?

 An irrigation well will need a Water Use Permit (this provides the legal right to use the water), and a Well Construction Permit to install the well.
- I want to put in a small well at my house. Do I need a Well Construction Permit?

 Yes. The Florida Administrative Code 40E-3 was changed in March 2005 to reflect that all wells of all sized would need a permit to construct, repair, modify, or abandon any well.

Where do I get a Well Permit to construct, repair, modify or abandon my well?

The permit application to construct, repair, modify or abandon a well is the same across the state of Florida. Where to submit a permit application depends on the location. The SFWMD has delegated well permitting to several government agencies. A list of well submittal locations, as well as contact information at those locations is available on our website under Permits/Well Construction Permits: Well Permits Application Submittal Locations.

If you have any questions, please contact us at wells@sfwmd.gov or 561-682-6930.

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