

The Driller's Digest

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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.

Former Commissioner Re- ceives Service Award

by WCC Staff

Former Commission member Cassandra "Casey" Champion is presented a plaque thanking her for six (6) years of service to the well contractors and citizens of North Carolina through her membership on the Commission.

The plaque was presented by current Commission Chairman Daniel Ortiz. Douglas McVey has filled the vacancy on the Commission.



NEC 2014 Adopted

by WCC Staff

North Carolina adopted the 2014 National Electrical Code beginning April 1, 2016. Well contractors who install pumps are encouraged to obtain a copy of the revised electrical code to make sure wiring on pump installations will comply with the code updates and pass inspection.

In addition to adoption of NEC 2014, North Carolina has six (6) pages of amendments that may or may not affect well contractors installing wiring. The amendments are listed on the NC Department of Insurance, Office of State Fire Marshal, Engineering and Codes web page at www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Engineering_and_Codes. Once on that web page, scroll to the bottom as the link to the amendments is almost at the bottom of the page.

Several book retailers have the NEC 2014 code book available for purchase. The North Carolina Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors also has this code book available for purchase and may be contacted at 919-733-9042.

Session Law 2015-246

by WCC Staff

On September 23, 2015 House Bill 44 was ratified and became Session Law 2015-246.

Section 3.5(a) of G.S. 87-97 (b1) states that when a well permit is issued it is "deemed to include authorization for the installation, construction, maintenance, or repair of electrical wiring, devices, appliances, or equipment by a person certified as a well contractor...when running electrical wires from the well pump to the pressure switch."

The new law also states that the local health department is responsible for notifying building inspection of the issuance of the well permit.

This means that when the health department issues a well permit they are by default issuing the electrical permit for well pump installation if a certified well contractor installs the well pump. This eliminates the need for a well contractor to obtain an electrical permit for pump installation, however the well contractor must still call for electrical inspections.

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.

Calvin Mitchiner

Wake 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 11/19/15 Case # WCC 005-15

Do You Need Continuing Education?

by WCC Staff

If you became certified or re-certified within the last 3 years a minimum of 2 hours of continuing education is required on or before June 30, 2016.

If you are in the 10% of certified well contractors that are required to have CE, renewal is not possible without first satisfying this statutory requirement.

Questions regarding CE requirements should be directed to Joanne Rutkofske, WCC staff, at 919-707-5881.

Send Us Your Pictures

By WCC Staff

For the past eight years Level A well contractors have been sent a vehicle decal with their wallet card. Some well contractors place the decal on a vehicle and some do not. As WCC staff travels the State we see these decals from time to time.

Now we are asking for well contractors to send us pictures of vehicles with certification decals on them for possible posting on our website. Pictures can be from a job site, the shop, anywhere the vehicle is displaying the truck decal. Well contractors can choose to be in the picture with the vehicle if they would like. Include a short description with the photo (when, where, who).

Just remember, WCC staff must review each photo for content and may blur plate numbers, company logos and contact information. Help WCC staff make the website fresh, fun and interesting!

New Commission Member Douglas McVey, REHS, MS

By WCC Staff

Please join us in welcoming the newest member of the NC Well Contractors Certification Commission Mr. Douglas McVey, REHS, MS.

Commissioner McVey fills the vacancy created when Commissioner Champion's appointment expired. Commissioner McVey is currently employed by the Buncombe County Health Department and previously was the Environmental Health supervisor for Pender County.

With well and septic experience in both the mountain and coastal regions of North Carolina along with 11 years in Environmental Health, Commissioner McVey is a great asset to the Commission.

Welcome aboard Commissioner McVey!

Certification Renewal

By WCC Staff

A friendly reminder that certification renewal notices are mailed out in the beginning of May each year. Well contractor certifications expire on June 30, 2016. Well contractors that have not renewed by the June 30 deadline are no longer certified as of July 1.

Supervising or performing well contractor activities after June 30 without certification renewal is a violation of Article 7A (Well Contractors Certification Act) and may subject that individual to a civil penalty assessment.

If you have not received your renewal notice by mid-June contact staff at 919-707-5881.

WCCC Disciplinary Committee

Raymond Brown, III -Effective 3/1/16

For violation of Subchapter 2C .0304(a) and NCGS 87 -98.11. The well contractor was given a letter of reprimand.

Christopher Bullins -Effective 3/1/16

For violation of Subchapter 2C .0304(a) and NCGS 87 -98.11. The well contractor was given a letter of reprimand.

JUBILEE in June!

by WCC Staff

The dates for the 2016 South Atlantic JUBILEE have been moved up to June 16-18. Normally a weekend event, this year the Jubilee is a Thursday-Saturday event. It will still be held in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Due to mid-June dates, a certification examination WILL NOT be offered just prior to the Jubilee this year as certifications expire on June 30.

The Jubilee is normally a pre-approved continuing education event. It will likely be one of, if not the last, non-online CE event for NC well contractors who need to obtain 2 hours for the 2015-16 year prior to the June 30 deadline.

To check for course pre-approval, visit us at www.wellcontractors.nc.gov. If you want to view the course offerings, visit the Jubilee website at www.jubileewatershow.com.

North Carolina Well Contractors Certification Commission

1653 Mail Service Center / Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1653
 Telephone: (919) 707-5881 Fax: (919) 845-3973

Commission Members

- Daniel Ortiz**, REHS **Chairman** -Autryville
- Jonathan Dills** **Vice Chairman** -Winston-Salem
- John Boyette, Jr.**, NCWC -Wilson
- David Brown**, NCWC -Hamptonville
- Douglas McVey**, REHS, MS -Hot Springs
- Thomas Whitehead**, NCWC -Wilmington
- William "Billy" Yow**, NCWC -Greensboro

WCC Staff

- Drew Morgan**, REHS (919) 707-5882 (enforcement, apps)
Andrew.Morgan@dhhs.nc.gov
- Joanne Rutkofske** (919) 707-5881 (CE, website, exams)
Joanne.Rutkofske@dhhs.nc.gov

www.wellcontractors.nc.gov

SERCAP- Financial Assistance

by Janice Tatum, SERCAP

The Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project is a non-profit organization that has been providing assistance to rural communities since the 1960s. SERCAP provides technical support and funding for water supply and waste water systems and this year has received funding to implement a private well program.

This program will include half-day workshops on well assessment techniques including determining potential threats from surface contamination. Workshops will be held in the fall and SERCAP will request continuing education pre-approval for well contractors.

SERCAP also has a loan program available for private well owners with an annual household income under \$57,800 to correct issues with their well, connect to a public water supply, or to install a new well. Up to \$11,000 with 1% interest can be borrowed. In February and March, SERCAP will be field testing a well assessment tool currently being developed by partners at the University of Illinois. Even if a well does not have any known issues SERCAP would still like to assess it, to better develop this tool.

If you know of a well owner that could use assistance, or are interested in training contact Janice Tatum in the Raleigh SERCAP office at 984-222-4304.

Certification Today

Total number certified.....1052
 Total number of applicants for certification.....60
 Certifications currently suspended.....0

NC Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

**NC Division of Water Resources
 Water Quality Regional Operations Section**

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

- Asheville_____828-296-4500
- Fayetteville_____910-433-3300
- Mooresville_____704-663-1699
- Raleigh_____919-791-4200
- Washington_____252-946-6481
- Wilmington_____910-796-7215
- Winston-Salem_____336-771-5000

**NC Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
 Division of Public Health
 Environmental Health Section**

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

N.C. DHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

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1653 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1653

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Online at www.wellcontractors.nc.gov

GW-1 Records–What’s Missing?

by Elena Campbell & Michele Scott, NCDEQ / Information Processing Unit

The Information Processing Unit (IPU) located within the Division of Water Resources/Public Water Supply Section have noticed a substantial increase of GW-1 reporting issues during processing. Here are some of the current issues creating delays:

- Handwriting illegible
- Certification # missing or incorrect
- Well Contractor’s Name and Well Contractor’s Company Name do not match
- Well Location information missing / illegible
- Missing / illegible information for Yield, Casing, Grout, Screen, Sand/Gravel, Drilling log
- Drilling Log data out of sequence. For example: In the well details section “From/To” or “Top/Bottom” please make sure the “From” is the smaller number and the “To” is the larger number. In addition, this is only a text field, so the term “Ground” or “Top” may not be used, only numbers.
- Well Casing Diameter omitted and not entered as an integer or decimal number
- Well Screen Diameter not entered as a range of

0.01 through 99.00

- Screen Depth not entered as a range of 0.01 through 9999.00
- Latitude/Longitude not entered in the correct decimal or degree format and correct range (Example: 33.75 through 37.75)
- Well Owner / Facility along with contact information missing / illegible
- No signatures, Date Drilled/Completed is missing
- Disinfection Type not specific with what was used and how much
- Address omitted or incomplete. Including an e-mail address is helpful
- Non-residential well contact person info for facility omitted. If facility and well location and/or contact location are the same, please indicate, Ex: “same as well location”

Make sure you are using an updated GW-1 form. They are located on the Division of Water Resources website at: <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/aps/gwpro/reporting-forms>. The updated combined form works for both Residential and Non-Residential wells.

The GW-1 is a well construction requirement. If your form is incomplete or filled in improperly you may be asked to resubmit the form.

Report Uncertified Well Contractors to the local health department or call (919) 707-5882