

Abandoned Well Closure

Definition/Purpose

An abandoned well closure is the sealing and permanent closure of a supply well no longer in use. This practice serves to prevent entry of contaminated surface water, animals, debris, or other foreign substances into the well. It also serves to eliminate the physical hazards of an open hole to people, animals, and farm machinery. Cost share for this practice is limited to the amount listed on the NCACSP average cost list. (DIP)

Policies

1. Bored, hand dug, and drilled wells may be closed.
2. A well abandonment record (GW-30) must be completed by certified well contractor and submitted to the NC Division of Water Quality. The well closure must comply with all applicable state and local requirements for well abandonment and closure.
3. Payment will be based on actual cost with receipts, with the cost to the NCACSP not to exceed the amount listed in the NCACSP average cost list.
4. The BMP must be inspected by district technical staff within 9-12 months following closure, to ensure surface water is properly diverted and closure is adequate.
5. Minimum life of BMP is one (1) year.

Standards

NC NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Standard #351 (Well Decommissioning)

NC Administrative Rule: 15A NCAC 2C.0113

NC General Statutes 87-83 through 87-99