

Water Supply Well

Definition/Purpose

A well means constructing a drilled, driven or dug well to supply water from an underground source for irrigation, livestock and poultry, aquaculture, ~~or~~ on-farm processing, or other agricultural production uses.

Policies

1. Pumps, solar pumps, and wells must have a qualifying statement that they will be used for agricultural use only.
2. Installation of the well must include wellhead protection.
3. Cost share for pumps for wells includes all costs associated with installation including the cost of getting electricity to the pump and is based on actual cost.
4. The solar powered pump installation is limited to sites where there are site constraints or it is cost prohibitive to provide electricity to the pump. The pump cost includes a submersible pump, photovoltaic panels, control box, support structure, pump cable, drop pipe, and fittings to make up plumbing at the pump.
5. Permits are a cost-shareable component for this practice in counties where agricultural wells are not exempt from permit fees. A copy of the permit, receipt of the permit fee, and any supporting water quality reports associated with the permit are required to be kept in the district's contract file.
6. Cooperator is encouraged to install water conservation measures and effective livestock exclusion fencing from streams.
7. Cooperators are responsible for obtaining and complying with all required permits and local requirements, including water use reporting and registration with DWR, if applicable.
8. Where there are already adequate water resources available under the control of the producer, backup wells are not cost shareable through AgWRAP. Public water supply is not considered under the control of the producer.
9. Wells are allowed for operations served by public water systems if the well will reduce dependence on the public water system.
10. Well repairs that bring unusable wells back into operation are cost shareable, including a pump if needed. Repair or replacement of only broken pumps or pump components is not cost shareable.
11. New wells and well repairs ~~and pump installation~~ must be completed by a well contractor certified by the North Carolina Well Contractors Certification Commission. ~~A NC certified well contractor is allowed to sign as Job Approval Authority within their approved level of certification.~~

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12. *Job approval authority signature is required from either NRCS or SWCD staff with appropriate NRCS JAA, a Professional Engineer, technical specialist with I designation or a Licensed Irrigation Contractor to ensure adequate pumping requirements. All private designs must still be reviewed by DSWC technical staff. The Wells for Livestock Watering Site Evaluation Sheet and/or the Wells for Irrigation Site Evaluation Sheet shall be used as a minimum requirement for planning and design documentation.*
13. New pumps or replacement pumps for existing usable wells are not cost shareable components.
14. Where the certified well contractor determines alternative casing is required by 15A NCAC Subchapter 02C Well Construction Standards the additional cost is eligible for cost share assistance.
15. A well may be used as part of a system for irrigation. Cooperators may receive cost share assistance for a well or a well with an irrigation reservoir if needed to run equipment, the same cost share cap will apply.
16. Acres irrigated or number of animals watered is required on the contract for wells that are not part of a pond system.
17. *A method for distributing the water from the well must be available.*
18. Life of the BMP is 10 years.

Specifications Standards

North Carolina NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Standard specification #642 (Water Wells), #533 (Pumping Plant)

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