

Water Well Decommissioning (District wide)



Lower Platte South
Natural Resources District

3125 Portia Street
PO Box 83581
Lincoln, NE 68501-3581
(402) 476-2729
Fax: (402) 476-6454

Problem

There are thousands of water wells that are no longer used in the Lower Platte South NRD. Over the years these wells have been left behind or “abandoned” without being properly filled and sealed. Wells that are left open are a safety hazard to unsuspecting people and animals. Open wells are also a direct pipeline to ground water below the earth’s surface. If contaminants such as fertilizer, livestock waste, used motor oil or other pollutants go down a well, they are released immediately into the ground water; perhaps the same ground water being pumped by active wells.

Solution

Nebraska law no longer allows landowners to seal wells on their own property, unless the well is a sandpoint well.

The Lower Platte South NRD Water Well Decommissioning Program has been established to provide funding to the landowner to help share in the cost of properly decommissioning wells.

The Lower Platte South NRD staff will provide technical assistance to landowners who choose to decommission their own sandpoint wells.

Terms

The Landowner will:

1. Allow NRD staff to inspect the well to be decommissioned, access, and allow inspection after completion.
2. Upon approval by the NRD, hire a licensed well contractor and decommission the well within six (6) months from the approval date.
3. Upon decommissioning, submit the licensed well contractor’s invoice to the NRD for reimbursement.
4. Complete an IRS W-9 form.
5. Submit records that the decommissioning activity was submitted to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

The NRD will:

1. Utilize established payment rates.
2. Provide the W-9 and payment rate information for approval.
3. Make a well site inspection.
4. Provide GPS coordinates to the landowner upon request.
5. Consider inspecting the well site after decommissioning.
6. Review the licensed well contractor’s invoice.
7. Calculate the NRD payment for the work completed.

Please complete the application on the following page and send it to the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District. This cover page can be retained by the applicant for informational purposes.

The Lower Platte South Natural Resources District is one of 23 districts in the state of Nebraska, formed in 1972 for the purpose of managing the state’s natural resources. Programs and activities include all areas of natural resource management and development: tree planting, flood protection, wildlife habitat, streambank stabilization, environmental education, land treatment, water monitoring and many others.

The districts are partially funded by property taxes and are governed by a board of directors--elected representatives who serve four-year terms. The NRD system is local government working to protect local natural resources. The Lower Platte South NRD includes nearly all of Lancaster and Cass counties and parts of Seward, Saunders, Otoe and Butler counties.

The Lower Platte South Natural Resource District is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.



Water Well Decommissioning Program Application

Well Information / Landowner and LPSNRD Agreement

The Lower Platte South NRD Water Well Decommissioning Program has been established to provide funding to the landowner to help share in the cost of properly decommissioning wells.

A. Program Application (Please use separate application for each well)

1. Fill in the information requested in the box below:

Landowner Name (Please Type or Print)		
Mailing Address (Street, City or Town, State, Zip Code):		
E-Mail Address	Phone Number	Cell Phone Number
Licensed Well Contactor Name (if known at this time)	Phone Number	Cell Phone Number
Tenant Name (If Applicable)	Phone Number	Cell Phone Number

B. Well Information: Fill in the information you know:

1. Location

a. Legal Description: _____ 1/4, or Lot _____, Section _____, Township _____, Range _____, County _____.

b. Attach aerial photo with "X" marking location of well.

c. Complete detailed sketch of well location in the box to the right:
(i.e.: well is 30 feet north of barn)

2. Is the pump still in the well? _____

3. Is there a cistern to be filled? _____

4. Is there a well pit to be filled? _____

5. Diameter of well casing: _____ inches

6. Type of well casing (circle one)

Tile Brick / Stone Transite Cement / Concrete

PVC Asbestos / Cement Steel Other _____

7. Total depth of well: _____ feet

Static water level in the well: _____ feet

8. Well use (circle one).

Irrigation Stock Domestic Other _____

If registered list registration number: _____

(Detailed Sketch)

N

C. Landowner and LPSNRD Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT, by and between _____, hereafter called the “Landowner”, and the Lower Platte South NRD, hereafter called the “District”, shall be effective from and after its acceptance by the District.

The Landowner and the District agree as follows:

1. The Landowner will:

- a. Allow District employees to inspect the well to be decommissioned, access to the area where the well is located, and inspect the work upon completion.
- b. Upon approval of the application by the District, hire a **licensed** well contractor and decommission the well within six (6) months from the approval date.
- c. Upon decommissioning of the well by the licensed well contractor, submit a copy of the licensed well contractors invoice to the NRD. The invoice shall include the depth and diameter of the well and an itemized invoice listing the quantity and cost of any and all individual eligible components. Eligible Components for NRD payment include:

Well Casing/Pit Removal – a lump sum payment will be made for well casing or well pit removal for the decommissioned well.

Gravel – a payment per cubic yard of gravel used in the decommissioned well.

Concrete Cap – a lump sum payment for a concrete cap installed on the decommissioned well.

Bentonite – a payment per cubic foot of bentonite used for the “plug” in the decommissioned well.

Native Soil – a payment per cubic yard of native soil used in the decommissioned well.

Grout – a payment per cubic foot of grout installed with a Tremie Pipe in the decommissioned well.

Cistern – a payment per cubic yard of the appropriate material to fill the cistern.

Pump Removal – a payment to remove the pump from the well to be decommissioned, dependent upon the diameter.

The NRD Payment is anticipated to only be a portion of the cost, any and all other costs shall be the sole cost of the landowner (NRD Payment Rate—see 2a).

- d. Submit to the NRD a completed IRS W-9 Form (Request for Taxpayer ID # & Cert) with the invoice.
- e. Submit to the NRD a copy of the Notice of Water Well Decommissioning that was filed with the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources “NDNR” (you should receive a copy of the Notice with your application).

2. The District will:

- a. Utilize established NRD Payment Rates in effect on the date of NRD Approval for the Eligible Components of the NRD Well Decommissioning Program.
- b. Provide the IRS W-9 form and NRD Payment Rate information for the approval.
- c. Make a well site inspection; collect global positioning coordinates and photos of the well site.
- d. Provide latitude and longitude coordinates to the landowner upon request, may be used on the Notice of Water Well Decommissioning form to be filed with NDNR.
- e. Consider inspecting the well site after decommissioning.
- f. Review the Licensed Well Contractor’s Invoice; the NRD may require additional certification from the landowner or Licensed Well Contractor prior to accepting the invoice.
- g. Calculate the NRD Payment for the work completed to decommission the well, as shown on the accepted invoice, in accordance with the approved components and quantities at the NRD Payment Rate in effect the date of NRD Approval of this Application. NRD Eligible Components are listed above in section 1.c.

Landowner Signature

Date

Lower Platte South NRD

Date

**Lower Platte South NRD
Well Decommissioning Program
Payment Rates as of December 2008**

Well Casing/Pit Removal – a lump sum payment will be made for well casing or well pit removal for the decommissioned well.

Gravel – a payment per cubic yard of gravel used in the decommissioned well.

Concrete Cap – a lump sum payment for a concrete cap installed on the decommissioned well.

Bentonite – a payment per cubic foot of bentonite used for the “plug” in the decommissioned well.

Native Soil – a payment per cubic yard of native soil used in the decommissioned well.

Grout – a payment per cubic foot of grout installed with a Tremie Pipe in the decommissioned well.

Cistern – a payment per cubic yard of the appropriate material to fill the cistern.

Pump Removal – a payment to remove the pump from the well to be decommissioned, dependent upon the diameter.

The NRD Payment is anticipated to only be a portion of the cost, any and all other costs shall be the sole cost of the landowner.

COMPONENT		NRD PAYMENT RATE
Well Casing / Pit Removal		\$185 / Decommissioned Well
Gravel		\$34 / Cubic Yard
Concrete Cap		\$71.50 / Concrete Cap
Bentonite		\$19 / Cubic Foot
Native Soil		\$24 / Cubic Yard
Grout		\$41 / Cubic Foot
Cistern Filling		\$24 / Cubic Yard
Pump Removal	2 inch or Less	\$2.55 / Foot
	More Than 2 inch	\$2.75 Foot