



Oregon Water Resources Department
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A
Salem Oregon 97301
(503) 986-0900
www.wrd.state.or.us

Well ID Program Frequently Asked Questions

All wells drilled, deepened, converted or altered after 1996 are required to have a well ID number attached to the well head. This Well ID Number is usually attached by the well constructor. If there is no ID number on the well at the time the property on which the well is located is transferred, a landowner (or representative, such as a realtor or family member) **must** apply for, and attach one within 30 (thirty) days of property sale, using the Well ID application form, which is available from the Water Resources Department's website at www.wrd.state.or.us.

Is there a fee to get a Well ID? No. It is free to apply for and receive a Well ID tag.

What is the legal basis for the program? Oregon Revised Statutes 537.789 - 537.793.

What is the purpose of the program? The purpose is to catalog each well with a unique Well ID Number. This number will link the well with a physical description of how the well was constructed (well log) in the Department's database.

What types of wells are bound by this program? All wells, including monitoring and water wells.

Do I need to apply for a new Well ID Number if my well already has one on it? No. A well only requires one Well ID Number for the life of the well.

Should I apply for a Well ID Number now or should I wait until the property changes ownership? You may apply for a Well ID Number at any time.

I share a well and the well is on the neighboring property. Do I apply for a Well ID Number when I sell my property? No. The owner of the property where the well is located is responsible to obtain a Well ID Number when their property changes ownership.

Who is responsible for initiating the process? The landowner who owns the property where the well is located may apply for the Well ID Number or the buyer may also apply for the Well ID Number.

Will this delay the property transfer if I am selling my property? No. It is not necessary to apply for or obtain a Well ID Number before closing the property transfer. The seller, buyer, or their agent may apply for the Well ID Number by completing an application.

What is a Well Report or Well Log? A well report or well log is a physical description of how your well was constructed. The Oregon Water Resources Department maintains a database of all wells constructed in the state since approximately 1960.

Does the Water Resources Department verify the well construction during this process? The Department does not review the well construction prior to the issuance of a Well ID Number. However, as part of the Department's Well Construction Program, new wells are routinely inspected during construction. If you have specific problems or concerns about your well, please contact the Department directly.

If you have questions concerning your well, contact the Water Resources Department: (503) 986-0900, or visit our website: www.wrd.state.or.us. Our office is located at 725 Summer Street NE, Suite A, Salem, Oregon 97301-1266.