

Driller's Bits



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Indiana Water Well Drilling Competency Examination Schedule 2008

Friday, February 15th
Friday, April 11th
Friday, June 13th
Friday, August 15th

Drillers or employers who inquire about an upcoming exam will be provided a packet including the license application and reference forms, study materials, and a reminder notice with location information and additional instructions two to three weeks prior to the exam.

Exams will take place at the Indiana Government Center South, and will begin promptly at 1:30. The exam fee of \$25 is due at the time of the exam. Please arrive early to allow time for processing paperwork and payments.

Candidates who pass the exam have one year in which to apply for an initial license, supply the three required references (two must be from a licensed well driller or plumber), and pay the \$100 license fee. Licenses expire on December 31st in the calendar year of issue, and are not pro-rated if issued late in the year. Questions? Please contact Monique Riggs at 317-232-4160.



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New Tool Available Online at DOW:

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Division of Water is pleased to offer the availability of a new electronic resource that combines water well records and current mapping systems into a useful tool called "Water Well Web Viewer."

This new tool should prove very useful to Hoosier well drillers by facilitating access to well record data while being able to view the location of the well on a map simultaneously. The user will be able to navigate smoothly between map and well record and back again, gaining insight to what might be expected at the next drill site.

The Water Well Web Viewer (WWWV) allows the user to select and display the plotted water wells, both consolidated and unconsolidated, on a map type of choice, be it USGS topographic quadrangle or 2005 aerial photos. The user will then have the ability to add layers such as

the Public Land Survey System (PLSS), highways, roads, and incorporated areas. Through an "identify" function users can view some of the most requested well record data including well depth, bedrock and aquifer elevations, pump test rates, static water levels, location information, as well as link directly to the entire well record.

The WWWV also allows users to create interactive queries (user created searches), analyze spatial information, view and print maps, and see the results of all these operations right from a personal computer. The application is available by navigating your web browser to the Groundwater/Wells or Water Availability/Use/Rights menu selections on the Division of Water homepage (www.in.gov/dnr/water) and selecting Water Well Web Viewer from the drop-down lists. A link is also available from the water well record

online database search page.

There are several tools available for helping the user make the most of the WWWV. For example, Zoom in & out, Find, Measure, and Identify. If assistance is required while using the application, a help menu is readily available by clicking on the help button.

Online Resources

There are several useful links ready for you to use and peruse on the Division of Water homepage.

Point your browser to:

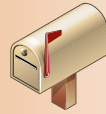
www.dnr.in.gov/water

*For Water Resource Maps: Click on Groundwater/Wells and select Groundwater Assessment Maps & Publications

*For the Water Well Record Database or the Water Well Web Viewer: Click on Groundwater/Wells and select either from the list.

* For Significant Water Withdrawal Facility Data: Click on Water Availability Use & Rights and select from the list.

2008 Renewal Reminder



Improve Your Well Records

Please use the directions north, south, east, and west instead of using left or right when describing the driving directions.

Indiana Driller License Renewal time is just around the corner!

This is a reminder that all driller licenses expire on December 31st of the year in which they are issued. Applications for 2008 license renewal will be mailed out in Mid-November.

The signed application is required for renewal, but license renewals do not require the reference statements or employment histories.

If your most recent license expired on December 31, 2006 and you have not renewed it for the 2007 license year, and you want to remain licensed in the future, you have until December 29, 2007 to apply and pay for the 2007 license.

If you do not obtain a license for 2007, you cannot later renew your license status for 2008 by simply paying the fee.

When more than one year passes before you renew an expired license, the license is considered lapsed and you will be required to re-take the written competency exam in order to be re-licensed.

If you have questions please contact the Division toll-free at 877-928-3755.



Change of Address?

If your company has had a recent change of address or telephone number, please be sure to contact the Division of Water. Also, we would like to be updated when drillers change the companies that employ them. This information is necessary in order to accurately prepare mailing lists for renewal notices, newsletters, or other important correspondence. If you would prefer to correspond electronically, please contact Monique Riggs at mriggs@dnr.in.gov to provide your email address.

Water Facts

Groundwater accounts for over 36% of all water used by U.S. municipalities. (NGWA)

Over 42,000 gallons of water are needed to grow and prepare the food for a typical Thanksgiving dinner for eight in the United States. This is enough water to fill a 30 by 50 foot swimming pool! (New Mexico Office of the State Engineer)

Groundwater supplies serve about 80% of the world's population. (Lenntech)

Did you know the first water pipes in the U.S. were made from fire charred bored logs? (EPA)

Only 1% of the Earth's water is suitable for drinking water. (EPA)

24% of fresh water the United States withdraws each day is groundwater--at around 83.2 billion gallons. (NGWA)

Indiana Code 25-39-4 requires well drillers to submit a record for each well drilled within thirty (30) days of completion. The Division of Water would like to issue a reminder about the importance of filling out water well records accurately.

The benefit of accurate data on the records submitted by well drillers is not only crucial to many Division projects; such as basin study research, aquifer mapping, & water rights investigations; but quality well logs are also beneficial to those in the drilling field. Many use the online database or the newly available water well web viewer (which provide access to more than 378,000 records) to obtain information on existing wells providing the opportunity for better informed drilling decisions & work estimates. Accurate data is also important to well owners, who may need the original information from a well log to assist in well maintenance or well failure investigations. Here are a few Division recommendations for completing accurate well records: Be sure the property address is the address where the well was drilled. If an address has not yet been assigned, please indicate the subdivision name and lot number and provide clear directions.

Fill out the construction details and well capacity test details completely—method of drilling, casing, screen material, diameter, gallons per minute, and time tested, etc. Static water level is an important element for the Division when conducting water rights investigations. If you send in photocopies, please remember to also copy the backside onto the record.

Not only are well records required by law, but your records may actually serve to promote your company to potential clients. Well records and drilling company information is readily available to the public through the combination of the Licensed Indiana Well Driller's List and the Water Well Record Database; both of which are published online at the Division of Water website.

An accurate and complete well record gives the impression of an organized and experienced business. If you are in need of assistance filling out the well log form, or need to order well log forms, please contact the Division of Water at 317-232-4160 or 877-928-3755

Thank You!