



## WELL CONSTRUCTION OR DECOMMISSIONING

### Process

Thurston County Environmental Health Division must be notified prior to constructing or decommissioning a well. If you are requesting a replacement well, please include your reason for this request along with your well construction or decommissioning inspection application.

Thurston County Environmental Health Division has a contract with the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) to assume responsibility for the inspection of newly constructed wells, and wells which are being decommissioned in Thurston County.

### How do I apply?

Submit a completed DOE *Notice of Intent to Drill* start form to Thurston County Environmental Health Division. Complete application requirements are outlined on the county's application form.

### Review Process

Environmental Health staff will review the well construction or decommissioning. The well construction or decommissioning must meet DOE and Thurston County Sanitary Code Article III, requirements.

### If you are the Well Driller, Applicant, or Property Owner

Complete and submit one Well Construction Decommissioning Inspection application to Thurston County Environmental Health Division a minimum of three (3) business days prior to the start of the drilling or decommissioning. This application can be submitted by the driller, applicant or property owner.

### If you are a Member of the Real Estate Industry or a Financial Institution

Be sure that your clients are aware of the requirement to notify Thurston County Environmental Health Division prior to constructing or decommissioning a well. Improper construction or decommissioning of a well may delay the issuance of building permits, loan certification reports, or subdivision approvals. Be aware that existing wells may have to be legally decommissioned prior to completion of redevelopment projects.

### Fees

There is no Thurston County fee for these inspections; however, there is a fee for review of the well site location if the well is to serve as the drinking water source for a public water system

([see Supplemental Well Site Application](#)).

### Appeals

Any person aggrieved by a decision, an inspection, or notice made by the Health Officer shall have the right to appeal the matter as specified in Article 1 of the Thurston County Sanitary Code.

## **I still have questions...**

The information provided in this bulletin is meant as an overview. For more details, talk to a staff member at the Environmental Health Department [EH\\_Tech@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:EH_Tech@co.thurston.wa.us)

Note: The information in this bulletin is only a general guideline of the procedures and rules. You should not rely on the bulletin to identify the specific requirements for your project.

## **Additional Information**

For additional guidance and fact sheets visit our web site at <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/departments/public-health-and-social-services/environmental-health/water/drinking-water-wells>

