

Van Wert County Health Department Private Water System Program Update March 3, 2015

Introduction

This informational update will cover multiple areas of concern within the current private water system rules, which became effective on April 11, 2011. Over time, it has become apparent that some requirements of these rules are being routinely overlooked by private water system contractors, the health department, or both. The information provided within this document is intended to ensure that everyone has the information needed to comply with the rule requirements.

Pressure Tank Installation

All newly-installed pressure tanks must meet NSF Standard 61, as indicated by labeling on the tank or packaging. Except for jet pump installations, pressure tanks must be equipped with a pressure relief valve, or a pressure relief valve must be installed prior to the distribution system shut-off. Finally, each private water system must be equipped with a downturned sampling faucet. The faucet must be installed at the pressure tank, or extended from the pressure tank to an accessible location if the pressure tank is not in a location accessible for sample collection. The sampling faucet must be at least eight inches above the floor, and must be installed at an angle no less than forty-five degrees from horizontal. The sampling faucet shall be placed prior to any backflow prevention device or treatment device.

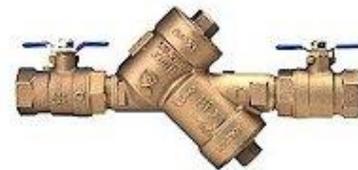


Backflow Prevention

A service line supplying water to a yard hydrant must be equipped with a backflow prevention device meeting ASSE Standard 1013, 1015 or 1024, unless the yard hydrant is a sanitary hydrant meeting ASSE Standard 1057. Examples of acceptable backflow prevention devices and an acceptable sanitary yard hydrant are shown below.



ASSE 1013 backflow preventer
www.watts.com



ASSE 1015 backflow preventer
www.zurn.com



ASSE 1057 sanitary yard hydrant
www.murdockmfg.com

Submitting Sealing Reports Online

Whenever a new well is drilled to replace an existing well which has failed or otherwise will not continue to be used as a water supply, the existing well must be properly abandoned. In order to minimize the disruption of a home's water supply, the existing well is often sealed by the contractor who installs the pump, after the new water supply has been connected to the home. Each time a well is sealed, a Water Well Sealing Report must be completed and filed with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Soil and Water Resources and the Local Health Department. For many years, water well drillers have been submitting their well logs online, and ODNR is now requesting that sealing reports be submitted online in the same manner. If you have never submitted well documentation to ODNR online in the past, call 614-265-6740 for your user name, password and instructions. Remember to mail, fax or e-mail a copy of each electronically submitted well sealing report to the local health department.

Water Testing Results

Each newly constructed or altered private water system must be inspected, and a water sample must be collected and tested for coliform bacteria. Although this is not a new requirement, the current private water system rules require the health department to report all new private water system water sample test results to the contractor(s) who constructed the private water system. The Van Wert County Health Department is currently not in compliance with this rule requirement. In order to save time and money, it is the intention of the Van Wert County Health Department to report these results back to contractors via e-mail or fax whenever possible. **Please contact Jason Menchhofer by March 31, 2015 with your e-mail address or fax number, or to request hard copy results sent by mail.**

Contractor Inspections

The private water system rules now require that **all** private water system contractors be inspected at least once every five years. **This means that all private water system contractors must be**

inspected before April of 2016. Ohio Department of Health Private Water Systems Program staff will perform well driller inspections but local health departments also have the option to continue doing these inspections locally if they wish to do so. The Van Wert County Health Department has elected to continue doing well driller inspections. Contractors who perform well pump and pitless adapter installations, and those who seal wells must be inspected by a local health department.

The Van Wert County Health Department has established an inspection fee of \$100.00 to cover the cost of contractor inspections. When requesting an inspection, be sure to contact the health department several days ahead of time to help prevent scheduling difficulties. Contractors who fail to obtain an inspection within the required time frame will not be able to renew their private water system contractor registration.

Contact Information

If you have any questions or comments regarding the contents of this newsletter, or health department requirements pertaining to private water systems, please feel free to contact:

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For additional information on private water system requirements in Ohio, contact a member of the Ohio Department of Health Private Water Systems program staff at 614-644-7558 or by e-mail at beh@odh.ohio.gov.

