

# Winnebago County Land and Water Conservation Department

## *Out of Service Private Well Abandonment Program*

This program is administered by the Winnebago County Land and Water Conservation Department (LWCD) and funded through the Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program and/or other available funding sources.

The following are the key requirements of the well abandonment program:

- The well must be privately owned, it cannot be a municipal, public or commercial property well.
- The private well must be located in Winnebago County.
- This is a voluntary program for well owners to receive up to 70% of the cost to properly abandon a well, to a maximum of \$1,000.00.  
Note: Exceeding the \$1,000.00 limit must have Land Conservation Committee (LCC) approval.

Well abandonment projects will be ranked as a high or low resource concern and cost shared as follows:

High resource concern is eligible for 70% cost sharing to a maximum of \$1000. A well located in an area with a high to moderate potential to allow pollutant loading into the groundwater as determined by LWCD shall be deemed a high resource concern well.

Note: Exceeding the \$1,000.00 limit must have Land Conservation Committee (LCC) approval.

Low resource concern is eligible for 50% cost sharing to a maximum of \$500. A well located in an area with a low potential to allow pollutant loading into the groundwater as determined by LWCD shall be deemed a low resource concern well.

- The well owner applies for cost sharing from the Winnebago County LWCD.
- The well owner submits a cost estimate from a Licensed Well Driller or Pump Installer for their well abandonment project. (**Note: If the first estimate exceeds \$500.00, a second estimate is required.**)
- The LWCD reviews the project and determines if eligible for cost sharing.  
Note: LWCD staff will prioritize and rank projects based on the resource concern using established criteria, pollutant loading models and return on investment.

- A cost share agreement (CSA) must be signed by all necessary parties and receive approval<sup>1</sup> **before** any work is done on the well abandonment project. **Well owners that do not have a signed and approved CSA prior to beginning their project will be denied cost sharing.**
- A Licensed Well Driller or Pump Installer must complete the well abandonment and provide the well owner/LWCD a copy of a properly completed and signed WDNR Well Abandonment Form 3300-005.
- Upon completion of the project, the well owner must submit proof of full payment to the service provider, a properly completed Form 3300-005 and any other required documentation to LWCD to receive reimbursement in accordance with the CSA.

Revised and Approved for Implementation by the Land Conservation Committee on 5-4-2017

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<sup>1</sup> Land Conservation Committee (LCC) approval is only required for CSAs using Winnebago County Water Quality Improvement Program Funding.