



HOW TO PROPERLY ABATE ABANDONED WATER WELLS

Because of the potential risk to public health via improperly abandoned water wells, the State of California and the County of San Bernardino require that all water wells either be maintained in a useable state or be properly destroyed. If your well is open to the environment, you must eliminate that hazardous situation.

A well whose original or functional purpose and use has been discontinued for a period of one year or which is in such a state of disrepair that it cannot be made functional for its original purpose or any other function regulated by this Chapter, shall be considered an abandoned well.

If after 30 days of abandonment, the owner of an abandoned well has not declared to the San Bernardino Division of Environmental Health Services (DEHS) the well for proposed reuse, your well could be declared a nuisance.

Please formally state your intentions to DEHS, in writing, for the abandoned well on your property. You have 30 days from receipt of this letter to declare your intentions. If you choose not to destroy the well, you must annually restate, in writing, your intentions for the well.

To assist you in the well abandonment process, we have enclosed a current listing of contractors licensed by San Bernardino County. These companies are versed in all manner of water well repairs and maintenance. Any hazardous conditions must be immediately abated. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.