

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR
WATER WELL DECOMMISSIONING**

CODE 351

Name _____
Legal Desc. _____

Ident. No. _____
County _____

A decommissioned well must be maintained to ensure its proper function. This structure was designed and installed to do the following:

- Eliminate physical hazard to people, animals, and farm machinery and to prevent entry of animals, debris, or other foreign substances.
- Prevent contamination of groundwater by surface water inflow.
- Restore the natural hydrogeologic conditions, to the extent possible, by preventing vertical cross-contamination or commingling of groundwaters between separate water-bearing zones.
- Eliminate the possibility of the water well being used for any other purpose.
- Allow future alternative use or management of the site.

The estimated life span of this installation is at least 20 years. The life of this installation can be ensured by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation and maintenance for satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

General Recommendations

- Inspect the site of the decommissioned well periodically to make sure the decommissioned well or the adjacent area has not settled or eroded.
- Maintain the site to prevent ponding of surface runoff.
- Maintain the site to prevent erosion.
- Maintain proper vegetation on a disturbed area if the area is not being farmed.

Specific Recommendations

If you need additional technical assistance to implement the operation and maintenance plan for this structure, contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) at your local USDA Service Center (listed in the telephone book under United States Government).