



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

EHS Circular Letter #2008-79

To: Local Health Directors and Registered Sanitarians

From: Ray Jarema PE, Section Supervisor, Private Well Program
Cliff McClellan, R.S.

Date: October 28, 2008

Subject: Local Health Visits Reviewing Private Well Records

Over the last 9 months the Private Well Program has conducted random site visits of some Local Health Departments, Statewide. Below are some findings that we want to share with all Local Health authorities so that they may improve the private well approval process.

- Majority of Local Health Departments have a well-organized orderly private well approval process.
- For those of you not utilizing a checklist we suggest one be used to improve efficiency. This checklist should be permanently affixed to the homeowners address file. This would quickly provide an indication of what items are still outstanding.
- Many of you indicated a lack of coordination with the local building officials. We would suggest you meet with your local building officials and impress upon them the need to communicate private well approval process so that Certificates of Occupancy (C.O.) are not issued prematurely. A well permit and a satisfactory water quality report should be recorded prior to issuance of a C.O. pursuant to the International 2003 Plumbing Code (Chapter 2).
- We recognize and certainly appreciate the workload that Local Health Departments have, however, it is important that private well paper work (permit, water quality report and completion report) be in place. This is particularly important if water treatment maybe necessary.
- Well location variances, exceptions must not be given to new home sites.
- We strongly suggest that homeowners test for water quality parameters listed in Sec. 19-13-B101 of the Public Health Code after a well is deepened and/or hydrofractured. The quality of the well is likely to change and a new water quality test would be useful.
- Continue to utilize our webpage for the ever expanding array of information, not only useful to homeowners but to Local Health Officials.
- We are open to suggestions for outreach documents that you believe would be useful.

Cliff and I would like to thank all the Local Health Departments that allowed us to review their records, and if you have any questions we would be happy to accommodate. The Private Well Program phone is 860-509-7296.

cc: Suzanne Blancaflor, M.S., Chief, Environmental Health Section
Ellen Blaschinski, R.S., M.B.A., Chief, Regulatory Services Branch



410 CAPITOL AVENUE, MS#51REC
PO BOX 340308, HARTFORD, CT 06134
Bus: 860.509.7296 Fax: 860.509.7295

Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer