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Water Well Decommissioning Program

Grant Applications

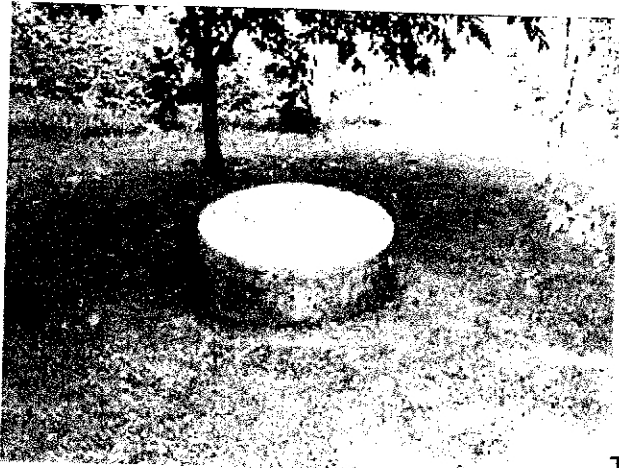
[Printable Application](#)

Funding Information

[Terms & Conditions for Funding Assistance and Project Eligibility Criteria](#)

[Water Well Funding Programs in Southern Ontario \(Interactive Map\)](#)

The NPCA Groundwater Study and the [NPCA Source Water Protection](#) watershed characterization studies state that abandoned water wells are potential contamination sources requiring immediate attention. Abandoned or unused water wells represent a direct threat to groundwater supplies as contaminants applied at surface may easily flow through these open conduits and reach the water table. While the exact number is currently not known, abandoned water wells in the NPCA watershed number at least in the hundreds. It is recognized that the decommissioning or "plugging and sealing" of abandoned water wells is a legal requirement of the property owner according to provincial regulation; however, decommissioning costs can be prohibitive.



The NPCA is pleased to offer a grant program to watershed residents for the plugging and sealing of abandoned or unused water wells. The NPCA Water Well Decommissioning Program offers a **90% grant rate to a maximum amount of \$2,000 per well**, with a maximum of two wells per property. Watershed residents interested in this grant program must first complete a Grant Application Form and be pre-approved by the NPCA prior to initiating their project. Projects already underway or completed without NPCA approval are not eligible for grant funding. Applications received by the NPCA will be assessed individually on a first-come first-serve basis.

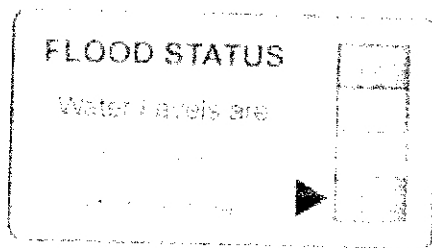
Please read the [Terms & Conditions for Funding Assistance and Project Eligibility Criteria](#) before filling out the application.

For an interactive map of Water Well Decommissioning Grant Programs available throughout Southern Ontario, [click here](#).

Do you have an abandoned Oil or Gas well on your property?

An abandoned oil and gas well on your property is a hazard to the environment and your health and safety. Such wells are also significant obstacles to new development and can be a financial liability to the landowner. Identifying and reporting abandoned oil and gas wells and properly plugging them is important. The [Abandoned Works Program](#) was established in 2005 to plug abandoned oil and natural gas wells to protect public health and safety and source water resources. Any oil or gas well drilled on land before 1963 that has not been used by the landowner and no responsible party for the well other than the landowner can be found qualifies for funding through the [Abandoned Works Program](#). All costs are paid by the Ministry of Natural Resources provided that you grant written permission for the contractor to enter your property to do the work. If access to the land is denied the Ministry may order the landowner to plug the well and the landowner pays for the plugging.

For more information, visit the [Ministry of Natural Resources Abandoned Works Program](#) page. To report a leaking or abandoned well, contact the Petroleum Resources Centre at 519-873-4786.



- [Development Review Information & Permits](#)
- [Good Forestry Practices](#)
- [Watershed Restoration Cost-Sharing Program](#)
- [Water Well Decommissioning Grant Program](#)
- [Lake Erie Shoreline Management Plan](#)
- [Lake Ontario Shoreline Management Plan](#)
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• **Programs & Services**

- [Watershed Development Services](#)
- [Development Review Permits](#)
- [NPCA Watershed Explorer](#)
- [Watershed Stewardship Services](#)
- [Good Forestry Practices](#)
- [Flood Control, Monitoring and Warning](#)
- [Water Quality Monitoring](#)
- [Source Water Protection](#)
- [Geographic Information Systems](#)

- [Stream Flow Monitoring](#)
- [Flood Status](#)
- [Natural Areas Inventory](#)
- [Nature For Niagara's Future](#)
- [Niagara River Remedial Action Plan](#)
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• **Make a Difference**

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- [Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation](#)
- [Human Resources](#)
- [Conservation Achievement Awards](#)
- [Simply Tree-mendous Challenge](#)

Water Well Decommissioning Grant Program

Grant rate of 90% to a maximum of \$ 2,000 per well (Limit of 2 wells per property)

Please read: "Project Eligibility" and "Terms & Conditions for Funding Assistance" before filling out this Application

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Town: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone (Home): _____ Telephone (Work): _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

Are you the property owner? Yes ☐ No ☐ *If no, written consent from landowner is required (please attach to application).

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Municipality/Township: _____

Lot(s): _____ Concession: _____

Street & Street Number: _____

Property Land Use: Urban/Residential ☐ Rural/Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☐ Other ☐

Size of Property (acres): _____

How many unused water wells do you have on your property? _____

Have you completed an Environmental Farm Plan for this property? When? _____

WELL INFORMATION

Type of well: Drilled ☐ Dug/Bored (large-diameter) ☐ Well Point (sand point) ☐ Not Sure ☐

Well Depth (m or ft): _____ Casing Diameter (inches): _____

Type of Casing: Brick/Stone ☐ Concrete ☐ Steel ☐ PVC ☐ Other ☐

How long has the well been out of use? _____

Why is the well no longer in use? Dry ☐ Poor Quality ☐ Alternative Well Used ☐ Municipal Water Available ☐

Other (please explain): _____

Is the well in a pit? Yes ☐ No ☐ Is the well flowing? Yes ☐ No ☐

Is there a pump in the well? Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure ☐

Date of well construction or approximate age of unused well: _____

Describe the present condition of the unused well: _____

Is a water well record available for the unused well? Yes ☐ No ☐ If Yes, please attach a copy of the water well record to this application.

Name of previous landowner at time of well construction (if known): _____

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Project Eligibility:

To qualify for program funding the following criteria must be met:

- » Grants are available for the decommissioning of unused water wells only. Oil wells, gas wells and cisterns are not eligible under this program. (Please contact the Ministry of Natural Resources at 1-519-873-4634 for information regarding oil and gas well decommissioning.)
- » The proposed work must be completed by a water well contractor licensed by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) as set out in Ontario Regulation 903.
- » The proposed work must comply with MOE procedures for plugging or abandoning water wells according to Ontario Regulation 903. Details of the procedure must be documented on the water well record and submitted to the MOE by the hired water well contractor upon completion.
- » A copy of the water well record must also be submitted to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) by the landowner or the hired water well contractor upon completion.
- » Grants are available to qualifying landowners with lands located within the NPCA jurisdiction.
- » Priority will be given to:
 - » Hydrogeologically sensitive areas (based on NPCA Groundwater Study or other studies as endorsed by NPCA),
 - » Projects located in areas with a high density of domestic water wells, and
 - » Areas where watershed plans have been completed or are on-going.
- » All proposals are subject to review and approval by NPCA staff.
- » Applicants must apply and be approved prior to initiating their project. Projects already underway or completed without NPCA approval are not eligible.

Eligible Costs:

- » Licensed contractor and/or licensed technician fees incurred for water well decommissioning (as approved by NPCA). Grant will cover 90% of well decommissioning costs to a maximum of \$ 2,000 per well (limit of 2 wells per property). This is a reimbursement program; the landowner will pay the full cost to the contractor, and will be reimbursed for 90% of the total project cost after all receipts, invoices, and water well decommissioning records are submitted to the NPCA.

5 Steps for Interested Property Owners:

1. Contact NPCA for an application and program information.
2. Fill out the application and submit to NPCA with two (2) quotes from licensed water well contractors which contain a detailed description of proposed work.
3. Obtain pre-approval from NPCA to proceed with proposed work.
4. Complete proposed work and submit all receipts, invoices, and water well decommissioning record(s) to NPCA for review.
5. Receive final approval and grant funding from NPCA.

SITE PLAN

Please provide a sketch in the space provided of the property with labels and measured distances to locate the following; buildings, structures, wells (including unused water wells), ponds, drainage ditches, roads, septic system, and natural features such as watercourses and springs. Include other information you feel may be important.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a hand-drawn site plan. The box is oriented vertically and occupies the majority of the lower half of the page.

TERMS & CONDITIONS FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE

The funding assistance for this project is subject to the following Terms and Conditions:

1. All projects must receive approval from the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) before they are started. Work which proceeds prior to receiving NPCA approval may not qualify for funding assistance.
2. The applicant is required to submit a completed application form and at least two (2) quotes for the proposed work.
3. Work must be completed according to the approved plans and specifications and to the satisfaction of the NPCA in order to receive grant assistance.
4. Work must be completed by a water well contractor licensed by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) as set out in Ontario Regulation 903. A copy of the well contractor's license must be provided to NPCA. The proposed project must comply with Ontario MOE procedures for plugging or abandoning water wells according to Ontario Regulation 903. A copy of the completed water well decommissioning record must be submitted to the NPCA.
5. The landowner is responsible for all payments to all contractor(s). The NPCA will not be responsible for any payments to contractors hired by the owner. The NPCA will issue a reimbursement cheque directly to the landowner upon completion of the work. The landowner must submit copies of receipts, invoices marked "Paid in Full" and/or copies of cancelled cheques, both front and back. Invoices and receipts must provide a detailed inventory of labour hours, quantities of materials purchased and all other costs associated with the approved works.
6. This application for funding assistance is not an application for a permit. The work must meet the requirements of all applicable provincial and municipal laws and by-laws.
7. Projects will be completed to the satisfaction of the NPCA within a defined and agreed time period as outlined in the approved project plan. The owner will not alter, interfere with or otherwise modify the project without prior written consent of the NPCA and other agencies involved.
8. NPCA shall have access to the site where any part of the work is being carried out at all reasonable times during construction and after construction for the purpose of conducting project assessment.

Landowner Project Agreement:

This agreement is to acknowledge that I, the undersigned landowner, understand and agree to the above listed Terms & Conditions. To the best of my knowledge the information contained in this form, which relates to the project and property, is true and accurate. I indemnify and save harmless the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, its officers, staff and agents from and against all actions, claims, loss, damage and liability connected with the said works or the provision or preservation thereof as contemplated herein, arising directly out of the adequacy, sufficiency, design, construction, installation, erection, excavation, use, maintenance, improvement, alteration, inspection, replacement, repair, destruction, removal, failure and obligation of the said works.

I hereby declare that I have read, understood, and agree with the above Terms & Conditions.

Landowner Name (please print): _____

Landowner Signature: _____ Date: _____

The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority collects and uses your personal information pursuant to Section 29(2) of the Municipal Freedom of Information Act 1991, and under the legal authority of the Conservation Authorities Act R.S.O. 1990 as amended. Questions regarding the policy or its administration should be directed to: Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority; 250 Thorold Rd. W., 3rd Floor, Welland, ON L3C 3W2, Attn. Privacy Officer.



**NIAGARA PENINSULA
CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY**

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