

**FAQ - Private Well Questions:**  
**Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3701-28-09 Materials,**  
**OAC 3701-28-10 Construction, and**  
**OAC 3701-28-11 Disinfection and Development**

December 2012

**Question:**

- 1. Does a driller need to submit a well log for a well he drilled but must seal because it was a dry hole?**

*Yes. A driller must submit a well log to ODNR and the LHD for any private water system borehole (test hole) constructed whether it is dry or not. He must also submit a sealing report for each borehole that needs sealed. He only needs PWS one permit regardless of the number of boreholes he drills and seals per individual property.*

ODNR

1521.01 Division of water definitions

(B) **“Well”** means any excavation, regardless of design or method of construction, created for any of the following purposes:

(1) *Removing ground water from or recharging water into an aquifer, excluding subsurface drainage systems installed to enhance agricultural crop production or urban or suburban landscape management or to control seepage in dams, dikes, and levees;*

(2) **Determining the quantity**, quality, level, or movement of ground water in or the stratigraphy of an aquifer, excluding borings for instrumentation in dams, dikes, levees, or highway embankments;

(3) *Removing or exchanging heat from ground water, excluding horizontal trenches that are installed for water source heat pump systems.*

**Question:**

- 2. Is there a provision for a large diameter well installer to manufacture the joint between the large and small diameter casing? Currently he casts a large diameter concrete lid with the small diameter fitting in the center of the large diameter lid. I will try to attach a picture. He is exploring the manufactured options, but has thus far greater confidence in the durability**

**of the concrete compared to a “manufactured” fiberglass lid that appears to be manufactured by cutting a hole in a molded lid and securing the small diameter casing in place with a sealing/adhesive material by the manufacturer.**

*Answer:*

*Rule 3701-28-09(B)(3)(d) states that for fiber glass casing the caps are to be from the same manufacturer as the casing.*

**Question:**

- 3. We anticipate issuing an installation or alteration permit to a property currently using non-potable water for toilets and laundry. The existing potable water well needs to be replaced due to casing condition. Can the new well be installed for showers, spigots and sinks and allow the continued use of a surface well or cistern for laundry and toilets? This is encountered in the northwest portion of the county where low producing deep wells are either very low yield, salty, or both.**

*Answer:*

*Yes. An existing private water system can be used for laundry and toilets **however**, since a private water system includes uses for toilet flushing and laundry, all parts and combinations of the private water system must be in compliance with OAC Chapter 3701-28. For example, if a rainwater cistern is used primarily for toilet flushing it must be installed with continuous disinfection and cyst reduction in accordance with OAC 3701-28-15.*

**Question:**

- 4. Can a water well driller defer his requirement to disinfect a water well on which he worked to the owner to complete the disinfection?**

*Answer:*

*NO. All private water systems contractors are required by OAC rule 3701-28-11(E) to disinfect the entire private water system after they complete the portion of the work they did on a private water system. The requirement for a private water systems contractor to disinfect the private water system after work has been done is not optional.*

*(E) All new, repaired, or altered wells shall be disinfected with products authorized under paragraph (D) of this rule to neutralize contamination after construction, development, installation, alteration, or repair, prior to water being removed for human consumption.*

*(1) The person performing the construction, development, installation, alteration, or repair shall disinfect the private water system according to this rule at the time of completion of the portion of work performed by that person.*

*(2) The owner of the private water system shall ensure that the entire private water system, including the plumbing and all related fixtures are disinfected in accordance with this rule, prior to placing that private water system into service.*

*Section (2) of that rule requires the system owner to comply with the disinfection requirement in section (1). It does not mean that the owner is expected to complete the disinfection and development process themselves. A private water system owner may do following up disinfection of the system at their own discretion.*