

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

NR 845 Overview

April 28, 2021 | DNR.WI.GOV



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Responsibilities of Delegated Counties and DNR



Authority – Chapter 280, Wisconsin Statutes
Well Drilling, Heat Exchange Drilling and
Pump Installing

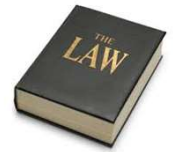
- Prescribe and enforce minimum standards for obtaining pure drinking water for human consumption
- Establish safeguards to protect public health against polluted drinking water supplies

Protect
Groundwater

Protect
Public Health

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What DNR does...

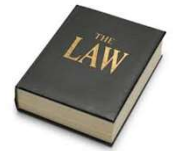


- Establish standards
- Licensing and registration program
- Conduct inspections and research
- Require water sampling and analysis
- Print codes and bulletins
- Provide recommendations to well owners for obtaining/maintaining water supply
- Suspend or revoke licenses

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What counties can do...



280.21, Wis. Stats.

- DNR may authorize counties to adopt ordinances related to well drilling and pump installing

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Administrative Codes



- **NR 812**, Wis. Administrative Code – Well Construction and Pump Installation
 - Applies to private wells and non-community wells
- **NR 845**, Wis. Administrative Code – County Administration of NR 812, Private Well Code

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NR 845 Overview



- Delegation Levels
- County Administration
- Laboratory Support
- County Personnel
- County Permits
- County Enforcement
- County Application for Authorization
- Performance Standards
- DNR Responsibilities

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Delegation Levels

Level 1 – Private Well Location

Level 2 – Pump Installation Permits

Level 3 – Existing Private Water Systems

Level 4 – Private Well Construction

Level 5 – Well and Drillhole Filling and Sealing



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County Administration

Ordinance adoption

- No less stringent than NR 812
- Consistent with delegation level
- Authorize administrator/inspectors to enter property, order, prohibit...

Qualifications – provide adequate # of trained staff to administer/enforce

Administrator – knowledgeable on well construction/ abandonment, pump install



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County Administration

Duties

- Record permits, fees, inspections
- Retain records and files
- Report to DNR upon request
- Require abandonment
- Investigate noncompliance
- Investigate/refer complaints
- Cooperate and assist DNR
- Refer variances to DNR
- Advise well owners



DNR provides standard application and inspection forms

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Laboratory Support

For Levels 2, 3 and 4:

- Sample analyses done at State Lab of Hygiene or other certified lab
- OK to use uncertified lab to analyze aesthetic parameters
- Submit lab results to DNR



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County Personnel

- Available hours at county office
- Inspectors
 - Attend initial training
 - Pass exam for delegation level
 - Do not grant variances
 - Do not issue permit that results in noncompliance



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County Permits

- Issued by administrator; valid 1 year
- Property owner responsible to obtain
- Assist applicants
- Schedule of fees
- Construction may start without a permit if county notified
- Permit transfer if change
- Permit displayed on site
- Notify if application disapproved



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County Enforcement

- Have procedures consistent with chapters 59 and 280, Wis. Stats.
- Appoint administrator
- Issue abatement orders
- Refer cases to DA or corp. counsel
- DNR may enforce concurrently
- County may not revoke WD/PI license



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County Application for Authorization

- Ordinance
- Enforcement Procedures
- Statement from DA/corp. counsel
- Expected # of staff and hours



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DNR Responsibilities

- Approval/Probation/Revocation
- Review and Audit
- NR 812 Compliance
- NR 812 Variances
- County Training
- Guidance



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County Resources

Information for Delegated Counties webpage

- <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wells/delegatedcounties.html>

DNR Wells webpage

- <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wells>

Well Driller Viewer

- https://dnrmaps.wi.gov/H5/?viewer=Well_Driller_Viewer

Fact Sheets

- <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wells/factsheets.html>

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OFF THE RECORD"