



Marshall Taylor, Interim Director

*Private Well Program
Annual Report
2019–2020*

The Annual Private Well Program report, for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, is submitted by the S. C. Department of Health and Environmental Control in compliance with the reporting requirements set forth in Regulation 61-44. Additional information and resources regarding the Private Well Program may be found at:

www.scdhec.gov/environment/bureau-water/residential-wells

Introduction

The EPA reports that approximately 15 percent of Americans rely on their own private drinking water supplies. South Carolina exceeds the national trend as slightly more than 20% of residents depend on individual wells. Proper well construction is vitally important to help ensure that the groundwater produced from individual wells is a safe and reliable source of water. The purpose of the Private Well Program is to ensure compliance with the well construction standards.

Permitting

During the reporting period, 3,923 Notices of Intent (NOIs) were submitted for residential wells and 1,023 for irrigation wells, totaling 4,946 wells. This total is 266 more than the previous year. Lexington County was the busiest county in the state with 451 approvals followed by Charleston County with 450 and York County with 424.

Fees

Fees collected during the reporting period totaled \$269,605 for residential wells and \$52,220 for irrigation wells, totaling \$321,825 for the year. This total is \$21,392 more than the \$300,433 collected for the previous year.

Inspections

DHEC well inspectors conducted 466 inspections during this period. This is 243 less inspections than the previous year. The majority of the wells inspected were found to be in compliance with the Well Standards, R.61-71. The compliance issues that were encountered during the reporting period were satisfactorily resolved through communications with the well driller and no formal enforcement actions were necessary.