

ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT



**Date:** May 31, 2011

**To:** Water Well Contractors, Consultants and Other Interested Parties

**From:** Kevin R. Hayes, P.G. *KRH*  
Environmental Programs Manager  
City of Jacksonville  
Environmental Quality Division (EQD)  
Groundwater Resource Section

**Subject:** **Update to City of Jacksonville Permitting for Construction, Repair, Modification, or Abandonment of Wells**

In an ongoing effort to improve preservation and protection of the City's finite groundwater resources, beginning July 1, 2011 EQD will now require permit issuance prior to construction, repair, modification or abandonment of all wells that are not currently permitted by the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD). The authority, provided for in City of Jacksonville Ordinance Code Chapter 366 and Environmental Protection Board (EPB) Rule 8, applies to wells in all areas within Duval County.

All wells, as defined by Chapters 40C-3 and 62-532 of the Florida Administrative Code (FAC), are included in the EQD Well Permitting Program. The SJRWMD will continue to be the permitting agency for all wells six inches or larger in diameter (water bearing casing diameter), ganged wells collectively meeting or exceeding the six inches diameter criteria, Public Water Supply Wells regulated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and wells located within Chapter 62-524, FAC Delineated Areas. Closed Loop, Geothermal Heat Pump wells are permitted by the SJRWMD under the ganged well classification. The EQD Well Permitting Program is not duplicative of the well construction permits issued by the SJRWMD.

Primarily, the wells being added to the EQD Well Permitting Program are domestic, irrigation, industrial, and geothermal open loop supply/return wells completed within the shallower, water-bearing zones overlying the Floridan Aquifer System. This includes wells completed within the Surficial Aquifer System (SAS) and the Intermediate Aquifer System (IAS). The SAS wells include those constructed into the Jacksonville Limestone, often referred to locally as "Rock Wells". The IAS wells include "Salt and Pepper Wells" completed within the Hawthorn Group sediments of the IAS. Please note that the listed examples of SAS and IAS wells are not all inclusive. As provided for in Chapter 40C-3.051, FAC, specific wells exempted from permitting requirements will not require an EQD Well Construction Permit.

Please note that previously exempted wells used for air sparging remediation will require a permit. Vapor extraction remediation points completed above the water table do not meet the definition of a water well and do not require a permit.

The City of Jacksonville's revised well permit application form and well permit application fee schedule are attached. The application fee shown is per well. The proposed well use and completion depth will determine the required application fee. As a reminder, a State of Florida Well Completion Report must be submitted to EQD no later than 30 days after completing any water well activity for which EQD issued a permit.

In order to make this transition as smooth as possible, Groundwater Resource Section personnel are available to answer any questions you might have. If you need additional information, please contact Mr. Lou Grant ([lgrant@coj.net](mailto:lgrant@coj.net); 904-255-7124), Mr. Germain Del Toro ([gdeltoro@coj.net](mailto:gdeltoro@coj.net); 904-255-7123), or me ([kevinh@coj.net](mailto:kevinh@coj.net); 904-255-7168).