

CARVER COUNTY WELL SEALING COST SHARE PROGRAM

Eligibility: wells that are sealed more than 6 months prior to the approval of an application by the County Board shall not be eligible for funding. It is not the intent of the Board to subsidize the sealing of wells that will be sealed as part of the normal course of life and business. Specifically, wells required to be sealed as a result of a property transfer, or replacement of an existing well currently being utilized are not eligible for this program. Abandoned wells meeting one or more of the following criteria are eligible for participation in this program:

1. Wells that are a public safety hazard – large diameter open pit for example
2. Wells within 100' of an active feedlot
3. Wells within the 100 year floodplain
4. Wells in wellhead protection areas
5. Wells in industrial areas or in the right-of way of roads, railroads, or pipelines
6. Wells at unattended sites
7. Wells located within sensitive areas as identified by Geologic Atlas Part B
8. Multiple aquifer wells

Application: applications will be taken on forms developed by the County. Completed applications shall be submitted to the Planning and Water Management (PWM) Department. Applications not meeting at least one of the eligibility criteria listed above shall not be accepted.

Administration: the program shall be administered by the Planning and Water Management Department; applications shall be accepted on a rolling basis as long as funds are available. The Joint Agency group (made up of Planning and Water Management, Environmental Services, and Soil and Water Conservation District Staff) will make a recommendation to the County Board; the County Board shall have final approval authority.

Cost Share: the County will pay 75% of the sealing cost up to a maximum of \$1000 per well; however in cases where the cost is substantially higher and there is an imminent threat of contamination, staff will consider and the Board may increase County participation in percentage and/or amount of funding. If approved, an agreement will be entered into with the property owner and the county to ensure payment if the proper conditions are met (see below).

Payment: payment shall be made by Commissioner's claim upon submittal to PWM by the applicant of a well sealing log and invoice.

Duration: the program shall operate so long as funds are available. The Board may, from time to time, appropriate additional funds and/or program operation.