

WATER WELL ABANDONMENT

Nebraska state law requires that water wells that are no longer used be properly plugged and sealed according to rules and regulations of the Nebraska Department of Health, Title 178, Chapter 12. Proper abandonment at the present requires more than dumping dirt or sand down the well and putting a metal concrete cap over the top of the well casing. Proper abandonment requires the unneeded well be filled with chlorinated sand to the top of the water table, a five foot bentonite or grout plug be installed at that level with sand filling the remainder of the pipe with a second five foot plug placed from three to eight feet below the existing ground elevation. The upper three feet of the well casing is to be removed and the area backfilled and compacted with native soil.

