



SOUTH NATION
CONSERVATION
DE LA NATION SUD



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SNC WELL DECOMMISSIONING GRANTS AVAILABLE

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South Nation Conservation again this year is offering a grant program to encourage landowners to correctly decommission their unused wells, helping to avoid water supply contamination problems.

“Unused wells are a direct pipeline to aquifers, allowing for contaminated runoff to possibly enter the groundwater supply,” said SNC Water Quality Assistant Valerie Sylvia, adding that once a well is no longer needed, it becomes liability if left untended.

“Runoff may contain pesticides, fertilizers, livestock waste, bacteria, or chemicals. Abandoned dug or drilled wells are a safety threat to humans and animals. The remedy is to implement correct decommissioning practices.”

A full 100 per cent up to a maximum of \$1,000 is available through well decommissioning grants offered through SNC, **with no restriction on the number of wells per landowner. Funding is limited and owners are encouraged to send in applications as quickly as possible.**

Administered by SNC, funding for the decommissioning program is being provided by the Eastern Ontario Water Resources Committee. Eligible costs include contractor fees, materials and equipment. Ineligible are any labour and machinery time provided by the applicant, dependents or his/her business, as well as GST charges.

All landowners in the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, the United Counties of Prescott and Russell, rural portions of the City of Ottawa, and portions of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville can apply. Applications must be made prior to initiating projects. Sylvia specified that funding is only for correctly closing down unused wells, not for upgrading operating wells.

Approved applicants must comply with specified Ministry of Environment (MOE) procedures for decommissioning wells; details of each procedure are to be documented on a Well Record by the contractor and submitted to MOE. **Work must be completed by a well contractor licensed as class 1, 2, or 3 under the Ontario Water Resources Act.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Valerie Sylvia, SNC, (877) 984-2948, ext. 238.

Our Local Environment. We're in it Together.  Notre environnement. Nous le partageons.

