

WELL REHABILITATION CRITERIA

GRUNDY COUNTY, IOWA

Chapter 567-49 IAC defines “rehabilitation or reconstruction” as “modifying the original construction of a well including, but not limited to, deepening the well, installing a liner, installing or replacing a screen with one of a different diameter or length, installing a pitless adapter, extending the casing, or hydrofracturing a well. Replacing a screen with one of identical diameter and length, replacing a pitless adapter, or acidizing a well would be considered repair, not rehabilitation.”

Reasons to rehabilitate:

∇ To prevent contamination of an aquifer is the only justification for funding well rehab projects.

∇ To improve the well structure to prevent contaminated surface water from entering the well and contaminating deeper groundwater.

∇ To prevent bacterial contamination.

∇ If other contaminants (fuel, pesticides) are present, explain how the proposed renovation would have prevented this.

∇ To repair human drinking water wells first and foremost.

∇ If funds allow, other private wells (irrigation, livestock, commercial) could be considered.

Types of projects that will be considered:

- ⇒ extension of well casing and elimination (or relocation) of a pit
- ⇒ installation of a pitless adapter
- ⇒ installation of a buried slab reconstruction
- ⇒ procedure to improve the grouting of a well
- ⇒ installation of a liner and grouting between the liner and the old casing
- ⇒ replacing a poorly fitted or deteriorated well cap with a proper filling sealed well cap
- ⇒ soil grade adjustment and drainage improvement around the well head

Applicants who meet the above criteria should send a letter of application outlining why they should be awarded well rehabilitation grant funds. Funds may be awarded up to \$600 per project, depending on the extent of the rehab. Grant funds will be paid against the original contractor invoice once the work is completed. All work must meet criteria outlined in IAC 567-47.5 “Well Sealing”. County Sanitarian will do an initial site visit before any work is done, a site visit after completion, and follow-up visits as needed for up to two years after the project is completed.

Types of projects that will **not** be considered:

- ⇒ solely a nitrate contamination problem
- ⇒ wells that are too close to a contamination source (livestock, fuel tanks, sanitary landfills, lagoons, septic tanks, hydrants, ditches, manure storage structures, etc.)
- ⇒ wells which are beyond repair (see well plugging grant)
- ⇒ wells with multiple contaminants (both bacterial and nitrate) unless it can be shown the rehabilitation work will reduce all contaminant levels long term
- ⇒ wells in which the only solution is a new water source
- ⇒ wells that draw their water from a surficial, unconfined aquifer
- ⇒ reconstruction of wells constructed after 1/1/89 which were not constructed to code initially
- ⇒ repair or replacement of a pump, electrical wiring, controls, pressure tank, piping or plumbing, installation or repair of water treatment equipment, or anything to improve the capacity (non-health related) issues of the well

Send applications to:

Grundy County Sanitarian, 706 G Avenue, Grundy Center, IA 50638.

Call 319-824-1212 with questions.