

§ 305-2.15. Well abandonment/decommissioning or repair.

- A. If a well fails and an emergency replacement well is requested, the failed well shall be abandoned and properly decommissioned by a certified well driller.
- B. Abandonment procedures.
 - (1) Sand and gravel wells. Sealing materials are watertight substances that prevent water and contaminants from entering and seeping through abandoned wells. The proper procedure for the decommissioning of these wells will be the following: The casing will be cut off four feet below the surface. Fill material (clean sand, gravel or pea gravel or crushed stone) will be used to fill the casing to within 10 feet of the top of the cutoff casing. The upper 10 feet will be filled with a mixture of neat cement and 6% bentonite by weight. The plugging material shall be allowed to flow out the top and along the sides of the casing to assure that a proper seal is established. The upper four feet of soil from the top of the casing to the surface shall be properly compacted.
 - (2) Bedrock wells. Bedrock well casings will be cut off four feet below the surface. To prevent the transport of fill material into fractures, it is recommended that larger diameter fill material, such as gravel or pea gravel, be used. The well will be filled to the base of the well casing. The casing shall then be filled with a mixture of neat cement and 6% bentonite by weight. The plugging material shall be allowed to flow out and along the sides of the casing to assure that a proper seal is established. The upper four feet of soil from the top of the casing to the surface shall be properly compacted.
 - (3) Well repair procedures.
 - (a) Only certified well drillers are authorized to alter or repair a well.
 - (b) For wells that have undergone repair, a sample shall be tested for total coliform bacteria and other parameters deemed appropriate by the Board of Health prior to being returned to use.