



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Executive Council

STATE HOUSE ROOM 207

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PRIVATE WELL FUNDING
FUNDING FOR PFAS REMEDIATION - PRIVATE WELLS
OR PRIVATE WELL OWNERS WITH QUALITY/QUANTITY ISSUES

More than 13% of Rockingham County is in a severe drought (National Integrated Drought Information System) which may adversely affect the integrity of private wells (shallow wells) and increase the risk of exposure to unsafe levels of contaminants – for example [drought increases risk exposure to naturally occurring arsenic](#)(USGS).

With nearly 50% of New Hampshire residents dependent on private wells for their water supply, I would encourage all to review two new grant programs being launched by the NH Department of Environmental Services - particularly with 100% of District Three residents impacted by abnormally dry/moderate drought conditions.

\$500,000 – Water Assistance for Natural Disaster (WAND)

Emergency financial assistance is available for “low-income NH homeowners served by residential wells that are experiencing irreversible water supply quantity or quality problems” due to extreme weather conditions (**drought**, hurricane etc.) or natural hazards (flooding, earthquake etc.). The program is structured/classified for reimbursements to vendors to alleviate the burden of initial payment for services. The online application portal – for private well owners and vendors - will open in early August and will be posted under [NH DES Water Well Rebate](#) Any questions – please contact Erin Holms at NH DES - Erin.L.Holmes@des.nh.gov

Low-Income Residential Well Owners - Eligibility

- Tier 1 – 100% assistance less a \$250 deductible if below 50% of the applicable MHI
- Tier 2 – 80% assistance with a 20% cost if above 50% and at or below 65% of the applicable MHI
- Tier 3 - 50% assistance with a 50% cost share if above 65% and at or below 80% of the applicable MHI

According to Commissioner Robert Scott – “We are watching the drought status and have reached out to well drillers so that they know of the potential for the program to be available should they witness a situation or are asked about financial support”.

\$5 MILLION for Removal of PFAS in Private Wells – Rebate

NH DES has tested 9,000 private wells in New Hampshire for PFAS, a synthetic chemical used for a myriad of purposes– stain resistance, petroleum fire suppression etc. Certain PFAS chemicals are no longer being made in the United States, yet consumer goods imported internationally may contain PFAS (textiles, carpeting, packaging). “Studies have shown that chronic or repeated ingestion of water with certain PFAS over a person’s lifetime may be associated with increased cholesterol and liver enzymes, as

well disorders of the cardiovascular, immunological.” The half-life of certain PFAS compounds may exceed 3.5 years – hence these chemicals have been labeled the “forever chemicals”.

Of the 9000 private wells tested, more than 3500 private wells had elevated levels in exceedance of NH’s Ambient Groundwater Quality Standards (4 PFAS compounds). Responsible third parties have provided alternate water supplies to 1,000 well owners. However, **2000 contaminated private wells have not been linked to a specific site/third party – thus have not received financial relief for necessary upgrades. Funding from this program will potentially assist these residents, private well owners who used a private vendor for testing, or other private wells not tested to date by either NH DES or a private vendor.**

Program specifics

I Time Funding for Qualified Well Owners

\$10,000 to connect to existing public water system

\$5,000 for purchase installation of treatment system

Eligible Recipients

1. Owners of single/multi family homes with private wells in exceedance of NH PFAS AGQS (no alternative water supply)
2. Tenants serviced by private wells in exceedance of NH PFAS AGQS (landlord has not applied).
3. Vendors and subcontractors can apply on behalf of eligible applicants.

- **Additionally, property owners who have tested their wells with a private vendor** are eligible for funding. Email pfasrebateprogram@des.nh.gov to request to be added to a list for notification. They will also be sent a notification/invitation letter

- **Any resident with a private well - not included in the initial DES testing or has not had their well tested for PFAS - can request sampling online**
([Southern NH PFOA Investigation Private Well-Testing Request Form Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](#)).

KEY DATES

JULY 25, 2022 – APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED AT: [PFAS Removal Rebate Program for Private Wells – NH PFAS Investigation \(state.nh.us\)](#).

AUGUST 3, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. – WEBINAR FOR PFAS REMOVAL REBATE PROGRAM
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6204068450905163275>

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

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