

Project Profile: Well Decommissioning

Well 1: Before



Well 1: After



Well 2: Before



Well 2: After



Jeff Hamilton farms in Cumberland Ward near Vars, ON. He completed two well decommissioning projects in 2017 through the Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program (ORCWP). Both wells were no longer in use due to poor water quality.

The ORCWP offers a 90% cost-share grant of up to \$3,000 per well for landowners that decommission their wells to Provincial standards using a licensed well contractor.

Pictured to the left are “before and after” wells on Jeff’s farm. Total cost to decommission both wells was \$3,125, with the ORCWP grant covering \$2,475 of this amount.

Wells provide a direct surface link to important groundwater sources. Unused wells should be properly decommissioned to reduce the risk of contaminating groundwater. Open wells can also pose a safety hazard, especially those with large diameters.

I would like to say that the City of Ottawa well decommissioning grant is a must for anyone with abandoned well(s) no longer in use. We have a farm in rural Ottawa with two wells that became unusable because of high sulfur and salt content. After contacting the City rep we agreed on a meeting to take some pictures. We agreed on a reputable contractor. I made the call and booked a date to decommission the two wells. I followed up with the City rep supplying a copy of the paid receipt for the contract work and received reimbursement within 60 days.

Thank you.

Jeff Hamilton

For More Information:

Ottawa.ca/cleanwater

1-800-267-3504 ext. 1136