

**Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
Water Supply Division***Agency of Natural Resources*

Old Pantry Building [phone] 802-241-3400
103 South Main Street [in-state] 800-823-6500
Waterbury, VT 05671-0403 [fax] 802-241-3284
www.vermontdrinkingwater.org

September 24, 2009

Re: Groundwater Withdrawal Reporting and Permitting Rule

Dear Groundwater User:

This letter is to inform you of a new state law passed in 2008 that may require you to report the volume of groundwater that you withdraw if it is greater than **20,000 gallons per day**. If you purchase your water from a public municipal water system or use surface water exclusively you do not need to report. On or before September 1, any non-exempted entity which withdraws in aggregate more than 20,000 gallons of water per day, averaged over a calendar month, from groundwater sources at a single tract of land or place of business must file a report for the amounts withdrawn for the preceding calendar year. The law exempted from this requirement withdrawals for fire suppression and public emergencies, domestic residential use, farming, dairy processing and milk handling, public water systems, closed loop, standing column, or similar non-extractive geothermal heat pumps, and withdrawals reported to the Agency of Natural Resources under any program that requires the reporting of substantially similar data. If you meet these exemptions and got this letter, please contact me at the number below to remove your name from this list.

This year's report (which was due 9/1/09) needs to be submitted **for calendar year 2008**. The form to be used for reporting is enclosed. This report is to be submitted yearly unless informed otherwise. In following years this format will be available electronically to allow web based submittals. The current groundwater withdrawal reporting form can also be found at www.vermontdrinkingwater.com.

Please send the reports to "Groundwater Withdrawal Reporting, Water Supply Division, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury, Vermont, 05671-0403".

The new law also requires that **beginning July 1, 2010**, no person, for industrial or commercial uses, shall make a new or increased groundwater withdrawal of more than **57,600 gallons a day** from any well or spring on a single tract of land or at a place of business without first receiving from the Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources a Groundwater Withdrawal Permit.

If you do not have a meter for calculating water volume, you may estimate the water use. The new Rule when adopted will spell out methods that can be used for estimating.

Currently groundwater withdrawal reporting and permitting rules are being prepared for adoption and will subsequently be posted to the Water Supply Division's website along with an updated copy of the groundwater withdrawal reporting form. The legislative Act (Act 199) which authorizes this rule can be found at <http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/watersup/permits.htm>.

If you have any questions please contact Rodney Pingree at (802) 241-3418.

Enc: Groundwater Withdrawal Reporting Form