

**KNOX COUNTY HEALTH ORDINANCE  
ARTICLE III  
POTABLE WATER SUPPLIES**

**SECTION A,           DEFINITIONS:**

1.     **Abandoned Well** shall mean a water or monitoring well which is no longer used to supply water, or which is in such a state of disrepair that the well or boring has the potential for transmitting containments into an aquifer or otherwise threatens the public health or safety.
2.     **Certified Laboratory** shall mean a laboratory operated by the Illinois Department of Public Health or a laboratory given certification approval by the aforementioned agency for analyzing samples of water for potable use.
3.     **Community Public Water System** shall mean a water supply system, which serves at least fifteen (15) service connections used by residents, or regularly serves twenty-five (25) or more residents for at least sixty (60) days per year.
4.     **Non-Community Public Water System shall** mean a water supply system which is not a community public water system, and has at least fifteen (15) service connections used by non-residents. Or regularly serves twenty-five (25) or more non-resident individuals daily for at least sixty (60) days per year.
5.     **Potable Water** shall mean water that is suitable for human consumption and which meets public health standards for drinking water.
6.     **Private Water System** shall mean any supply which provides water for drinking, culinary, and sanitary purposes and serves an owner-occupied single-family dwelling.
7.     **Semi-Private Water System** shall mean a water supply, which is not a public water system, yet, which serves a segment of the public other than an owner-occupied single-family dwelling.
8.     **Water Well** shall mean any excavation that is drilled, cored, bored, washed, driven, dug, jetted or otherwise constructed when the intended use of such excavation is for the location, diversion, artificial re-charges, or acquisition of ground water, except monitoring wells.

Knox County Health Ordinance  
Potable Water Supplies

**SECTION B, GOAL:**

To provide for consumer protection and to reduce the risk of transmission of communicable disease and other health threats by providing for a safe potable, and adequate supply of water for drinking, culinary, and sanitary purposes by promoting the proper design and construction of water wells.

**SECTION C, SCOPE:**

An Ordinance regulating all water wells as defined in the most current edition of the “Illinois Water Well Construction Code” the construction and/or reconstruction of such wells within the limits of Knox County, Illinois as provided for 55 ILCS 5/5-25001 and as referenced in 55 ILCS 5/5-25013.

**SECTION D, ADOPTION BY REFERENCE:**

In addition to those provisions set forth, this Ordinance shall be interpreted and enforcement in accordance with provisions set forth in the following statutes, rules and regulation of the State of Illinois, Department of Public Health and any subsequent amendments or revisions thereto:

1. “Illinois Water Well Construction Code.” ( 77 ILL. Adm. Code 920)
2. “Illinois Water Well Pump installation Code.” ( 77 ILL. Adm. Code 925 )
3. “Public Area Sanitary Practice Code.” ( 77 ILL. Adm. Code 895)
4. “Drinking Water Systems Code.” ( 77 ILL. Adm. Code 900)
5. “Surface Water Treatment Code.” (ILL Adm. Code 930)

**SECTION E, PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT:**

No water well shall be constructed or deepened except in accordance with this Ordinance, and it shall be unlawful to proceed with such work unless a permit has first been obtained from the Health Department. A non-community public water supply shall not be operated without first obtaining a permit from the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Knox County Health Ordinance  
Potable Water Supplies

1. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to obtain a permit before any construction or deepening of a water well is initiated. Failure of the property owner to obtain a permit before any construction or deepening of a water well is initiated shall constitute a violation of this Ordinance.
2. It shall be the responsibility of the Water Well Contractor to insure that a permit has been issued before any construction or deepening of a water well is initiated and to follow the conditions of said permit. Failure of The Water Well Contractor to insure said permit said permit has been issued or to violate the conditions of said permit shall constitute a violation of this Ordinance.

**SECTION F, APPLICATION FOR PERMIT:**

All applications for permits granted under the provision of this Ordinance shall be in writing on forms provided by the Health Department and submitted to the Health Officer. Sufficient data shall be included to allow review and to determine whether the proposed application for permit meets the requirements of this Ordinance.

1. A person desiring a permit required herein shall apply to the Health Officer upon an application form which shall be completed and signed by each applicant and shall include the following:
  - a. The name and address of the applicant and legal description of the proposed site of construction, alteration or extension as proposed.
  - b. Such other information as may be required by the Health Department to substantiate that the proposed construction, alteration or extension complies with minimum standards of this Ordinance
2. Said permit to construct is valid for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of issuance. If construction and/or reconstruction has not started within this period, the permit is void, unless a renewal has been granted by the Health Department.

Knox County Health Ordinance  
Potable Water Supplies

3. Fees

There shall be a fee of \$100.00 charged for the permit required in this Ordinance. The fee shall be collected at the time the application for permit is submitted and shall be deposited into the Health Department fund, if a permit is denied the fee shall be returned to the applicant.

4. A permit to construct or deepen a water well shall not be required by the Health Department when such water well does or will serve a community public water system or function as a monitoring well.

**SECTION G, INSPECTION:**

A water well shall not be placed into operation until the installation of the water well and its components has been inspected to verify compliance with applicable provisions of this Ordinance and written approval issued by the Health Department. To the degree practical and permitted by the Health Authority, the completed installation shall remain uncovered and/or accessible for inspection purposes until approval by the Health Officer. If the Health Officer, upon inspection of the specified installation or component thereof, finds that such work meets the provisions of this Ordinance, approval shall be given and authorization to operate the water well granted.

1. The Health Department shall be notified at least two (2) days prior to commencing the construction or deepening of a water well for which a permit has been issued.
2. All components of a new water well construction and/or modification shall be thoroughly disinfected with a strong chlorine solution which will yield a dosage of at least 100 parts per million to the water in the well. After purging the system of any chlorine residual, a water sample shall be taken and satisfactory bacteriological results, as confirmed by a certified laboratory, shall be obtained prior to utilizing the water system for drinking and culinary purposes.

Knox County Health Ordinance  
Potable Water Supplies

3. Upon inspection by the Health Officer, if it is found that any provisions of this Ordinance or any permit specifications for a stated property have not been met, the Health Department shall notify the water well contractor to make such specified changes in the work to insure compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance and the permit. If such changes are not made within the time specified by the Health Officer, said permit shall be suspended, and it shall be unlawful to place the water well into operation.

**SECTION H, ABANDONED WELLS:**

Wells that are abandoned shall be sealed in manner prescribed by the Health Department and the "Illinois Water Well Construction Code." The Health Department shall inspect abandoned wells, which have been sealed to determine compliance with this ordinance. The Health Department shall be notified at least two (2) days prior to sealing of an abandoned well at which time a date for inspection will be arranged.

**SECTION I, PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY USE:**

In those locations where a public water supply is reasonably available, that supply shall be the sole source of water for drinking and culinary purposes. A public water supply shall be deemed reasonable available when the subject property is located within two-hundred (200) feet of the public water supply to which connection is practical and is permitted by the controlling authority for said water supply.

**SECTION J, POTABLE WATER SUPPLY REQUIRED:**

All premises intended for human habitation or occupancy shall be provided with a potable water supply. The potable water supply shall not be connected to non-potable water and shall be protected against backflow and backsiphonage in accordance with the requirements of the "Illinois Plumbing Code. "Each potable water supply shall provide quantities of water that are sufficient for the drinking, culinary, and sanitary needs of the dwelling or premises served.

Knox County Health Ordinance  
Potable Water Supplies

**SECTION K, PENALTIES:**

Any person who violates any provision of this Article, which violation constitutes a violation of any rule, regulation, order or determination of the Department of Public Health of the State of Illinois, adopted or made by said Department pursuant to said Act, shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and fined not less than \$100.00. Any other violation of this Article shall be deemed a Petty Offense. Each day's violation constitutes a separate offense.

Upon adoption, this Article shall be in full force and effective as provided by law on January 1, 1995.

The above and foregoing Article was adopted on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
20\_\_\_\_ .

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman of the County Board of the  
County of Knox, Illinois

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Clerk of the County Board of the  
County of Knox, Illinois