How to Use the Well Report Query



Before you begin, it is helpful to gather the following information:

- 1. Complete property address, with zip code.
- 2. Names of previous owners, especially around the time the home was built or placed on the property. **Hint:** Well Reports are archival in nature and <u>remain under the name of the landowner at the time</u>. Check with the County Assessor's Office of a title company for the property history.
- 3. The property Map Number, map tax lot number (i.e.: a series of numbers / letters like 3S102B000105) is actually the Township, Range, Section and Tax Lot in disguise.

 Hint: The Map number above would translate to: Township 3 South, Range 1 West, Section 2. The North/South line (Township) cuts through Portland, and the East/West line (Range) is roughly 2 miles east of the I-5 corridor.
- 4. The Lot and Block numbers, if applicable. (Report might not list the current property address.)
- 5. Any former address the property might have been known as (such as a Route and Box number.)
- 6. Double-check to see if the well has a Well Identification Number (stainless steel label) on the casing.

Now you're ready to search online for a Well Report. Type www.oregon.gov/owrd in the navigation pane. Hit "Enter" to default to OWRD's home page. Under Groundwater and Wells, click "Find a Well Report". Or, here is the direct link to the Query: https://apps.wrd.state.or.us/apps/gw/well_log/Default.aspx. A picture of the query page is shown below.

Step-by-step directions:

- 1. If you found a Well ID on the well, simply enter the number in the Well Label field, and click "Search".
- 2. If there's no Well ID, then search by Township, Range, and Section (TRS) on the left. You can get the TRS by clicking "Search by Map", or look it up on the county assessor website. Then come back to the Query and enter it. (Sorry for the inconvenience, while the "Find TRS by Address" button is not available.)
- 3. Now move to the right side of the page. These fields give you several *options* of how to find records, but you do not need to try and fill it all in. LESS IS MORE.





- 4. If entering Owner Last Name or Company Name, enter the first 2-3 letters only. Some reports are hard to read, so information might appear differently than expected.
- 5. If you are looking for a domestic water well, choose "Water Well" on the "Type of Report" menu.
- 6. On "Records per Page", add a "0" to the end of 10 to make it at least "100", for easy scrolling through the results page.
- 7. Click "Search". A list of Well Reports will appear. To sort data, click any of the column headings (blue text). It's best to sort by "Street Address of Well" first, and then look for address or Lot/Block.
- 8. To view a Well Report image, click on the Well Log number (first 4 letters of the county and some numbers) in the far-left column.

Hint: The street address and Tax Lot may not always be included on Well Reports, especially for older wells. Sometimes the PDF shows more information than what was entered in the database, so check the image if the address field is blank.

Again...LESS IS MORE... Try these tricks during your search:

- Un-check the Section box, OR also click surrounding sections; the report may be filed under a nearby section
- Take out the TRS and search by County and first 2-3 letters of the Owner Last Name or Company Name
- As a last resort, try entering only the County and Tax Lot (Tax Lots change and may not be listed at all)

Note: Wells constructed prior to 1955 may not have a Well Report on file with the Department.

Questions?

Contact the Well ID Program Specialist at 971-287-8218, or email at for more information and assistance in navigating the Well Report Query.



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