



# Yolo County Groundwater Assistance Program

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## Purpose

The purpose of the Yolo County groundwater assistance program is to provide assistance to Yolo County property owners affected by a dry household well<sup>1</sup> while they wait for the drilling of a new well. This program is designed to meet the basic sanitation and drinking water needs of a household.

## Program Funding

During the drought, Yolo County residents could be adversely affected by dry household wells. Yolo County has appropriated \$75,000 in the OES Fiscal Year 15-16 budget to assist property owners with dry household wells. This funding will be managed by the Yolo County Office of Emergency Services (OES).

A second source of drought assistance funding which may become available for use by Yolo County is California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) funds, released by the Governor and managed through the California Office of Emergency Services. The threshold for accessing CDAA funds is \$3,300 in local expenditures. CDAA funds used will require a 25% County match.

In order to follow funding source guidelines and maximize the funding to assist as many households as possible during the drought, this plan outlines the requirements of the program and administration of these funds.

## Eligibility

To be eligible for the Yolo County Groundwater Assistance Program, you must comply with the following:

- ***You must be the property owner of record*** – Monetary assistance will not be issued to renters of properties in Yolo County as it is the property owner's responsibility to rectify any issues that violate Health and Safety code on their property. Proof of ownership will be required.
- ***The dry well must be reported to the Yolo County Office of Emergency Services (OES)*** - A dry well report will be taken by the Yolo County OES staff. Information on the well will be used by the Yolo County OES and the California OES for groundwater monitoring purposes. Dry well reports can be submitted as follows:

E-mail

[OES@yolocounty.org](mailto:OES@yolocounty.org)

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<sup>1</sup> This program does not address Agricultural Wells.

- ***A groundwater depth measurement will be taken*** - The Yolo County Division of Natural Resources, in partnership with the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, will dispatch a Subject Matter Expert to verify the well is dry as a result of the groundwater table being below the current well depth. Wells which have gone dry due to mechanical failure will not be funded.
- ***Intent to rectify the problem must be demonstrated*** - The property owner must submit a letter to the Yolo County OES from a bonded and licensed well drilling company with a copy of the Yolo County well drilling permit, which indicates that the property is on a well drill list and has been permitted, with the approximate month in which work will begin.

## Allowable Costs

Funding under this program is specific to:

- ***Installation of a temporary, external water tank*** - In some cases, the existing well retention tank may be able to be directly supplied with water which would preclude the installation of an external tank. In cases where this is not possible, a tank may need to be installed to contain potable water for basic sanitation and hygiene purposes.
- ***Piping and electrical connections*** - In cases where the retention tank can be used directly, no extra plumbing or electrical work may be needed. In cases where external tanks are installed, additional plumbing and electrical work will be required to join the tank's water to the household plumbing system<sup>2</sup>.
- ***Hauling of potable water to the tank*** - A schedule will be setup with a potable water hauler that ensures approximately 50 gallons per person, per day will be available for use.
- ***Removal and disposal of the temporary tank*** - Emergency funds are not eligible for permanent work. All modifications made to a household system during this time will be removed and disposed of once a new well has been drilled.

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<sup>2</sup> Ensuring that the water is directly connected to the house system would be required to be compliant with Health and Safety Code 17920.3.

## Non-allowable Costs

Items NOT eligible for funding<sup>3</sup>:

- ***Any costs associated with the acquisition of a new well*** – Low interest loans and assistance to those who qualify based on income have been made available through various State and Federal sources. The Yolo OES will assist in connecting property owners to these programs.
- ***Water in excess of the amounts listed above in the Allowable Costs section*** – Water amounts have been chosen based on data and best practices currently in use throughout the State of California. Water in excess of 50 gallons per person per day will not be paid for under this program.
- ***Porta-Potties or external shower trailers***

## Administration

The Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, in partnership with the Yolo County OES, will schedule the installation of, supply to, and removal of an external water tank to supply temporary potable water to the residence while on the well drill list. Any and all contractors and equipment to be used will be at the discretion of these agencies conform to their purchasing requirements.

Any property which is a part of this program and DOES NOT have a new well installed one year from the date of the permit issuance will be reassessed for assistance extension by the Yolo County OES.

Yolo County OES reserves the right to change any portion of this plan as response and funding changes within the State.

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<sup>3</sup> This list may not contain all eligible/non-eligible items. Yolo OES will be the point of contact to research eligibility on any item(s) not listed.