



## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Date:** March 18, 2016**Contact:** Katie Bobich**Phone:** (218) 824-1002

### Crow Wing County Receives Grant to Protect Groundwater

Crow Wing County recently was approved for a Clean Water Land and Legacy grant to help land owners seal unused wells.

A well that is not in use, or abandoned, can be a source of groundwater contamination by providing a potential direct path for surface water runoff, contaminated water, or improperly disposed of waste to reach an uncontaminated groundwater source. Unused larger-diameter wells can also be a safety hazard for children and animals. The program will pay for 50% of the cost to properly seal the well, up to a maximum of \$1000. A state-licensed well contractor must conduct the work. All landowners with unused wells are encouraged to apply. Sealing involves clearing the well of debris and filling the well with grout. Citizens are encouraged to contact a licensed well driller to begin the process.

Groundwater protection is identified as a priority in the Crow Wing County Water Plan, and most of Crow Wing County's residents rely on groundwater for their source of drinking water.

The Land Services Department is committed to providing excellent customer service while helping our residents make wise decisions that protect Crow Wing County's extraordinary natural resources. Citizens are encouraged to contact the Environmental Services Office at (218) 824-1125 or to visit the Crow Wing County Web Site [www.crowwing.us](http://www.crowwing.us) for more information.

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