



Focus on Ecology's Well Log Internet Site

from Ecology's Water Resources Program

Ecology's Well Log Internet site is located at <http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/welllog>.

You can also go to www.google.com or www.yahoo.com or www.access.wa.gov

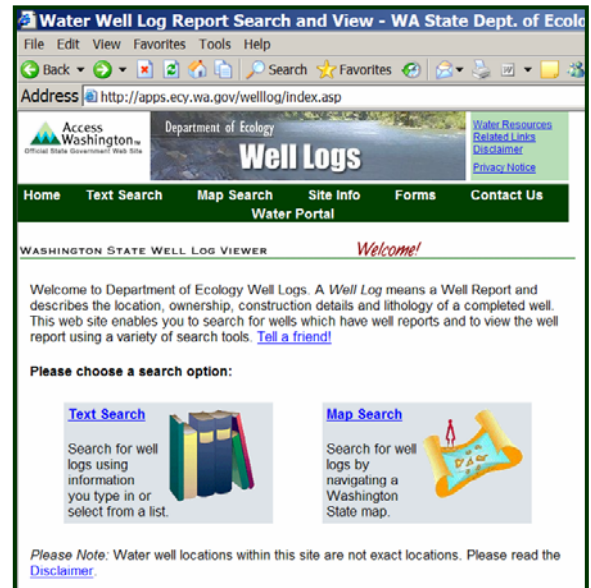
and search using the words "water well logs."

A well report, or *well log*, describes the location, ownership, construction details and physical characteristics of a well. When a contractor drills a well, he or she is legally required to file a well log with the Department of Ecology (Ecology) within thirty days of completion of the well. Ecology's Well Log Internet site contains data on all wells in Washington State for which Ecology has a record.

Well Logs and the Internet Site

Ecology has four regional offices that are responsible for the collection, acceptance, and filing of well logs. Well reports include information about all wells drilled and recorded in Washington, such as:

- Location of the well
- Ownership (original owner)
- Diameter and depth of well
- Construction details
- Water levels
- Tests performed at time of drilling.



Well Log home page

Ecology's Well Log Internet Site contains detailed information on over 370,000 wells. This includes both water and resource protection wells, both new and decommissioned. These data are available to the public for viewing and printing.

Information in the Well Log database comes from the original written logs submitted by well drillers. The accuracy of the information depends on the knowledge and care taken by each well driller when completing the well report. Well locations are accurate to the nearest section, township and range, using public land survey maps.

Developing the Internet site

Washington has maintained written well log information since the 1930s, and Ecology has managed the records since 1971. It took Ecology staff several years to develop this online system. The process began with scanning and indexing over 60 years of historical documents, to create an internal well log database. This database allowed Ecology staff to record and share well information more quickly and accurately. The Internet well log application was then designed; field staff tested it for several months to ensure it was as user-friendly as possible.

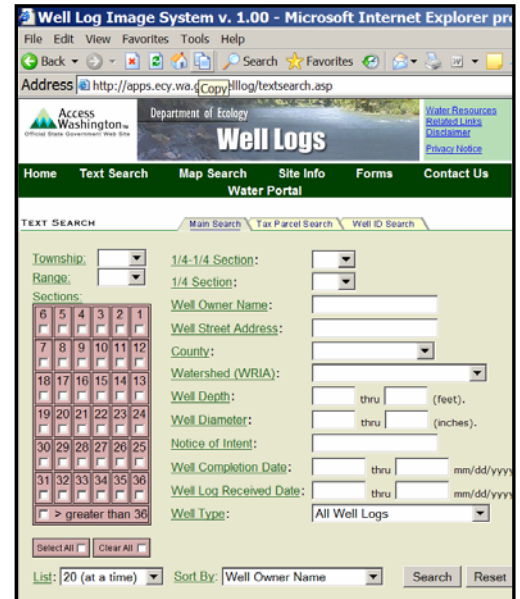
Using the Well Log Internet site

The Well Log Internet site provides a variety of search tools. From the home page, users can select the Text Search (using information you type in or select from a list) or the Map Search (from which you navigate a Washington State map). With these tools, users can search for and view any well log report currently in the department's files.

Specific search criteria include:

- Township-range-section
- Owner's name
- Well address
- County
- WRIA (Water Resource Inventory Area)
- Well depth and diameter
- Date well was completed
- Tax parcel number.

The system is capable of delivering up to 70,000 well reports within 5 seconds. You can view well log images or download data and images -- all with just a few key strokes.



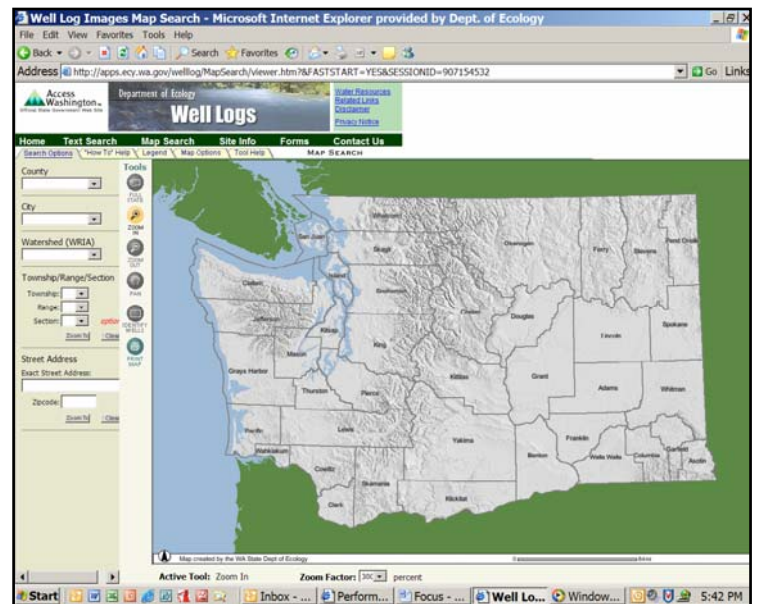
The screenshot shows the 'Well Log Image System v. 1.00' interface in Microsoft Internet Explorer. The address bar shows 'http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/Copy/lllog/textsearch.asp'. The page title is 'Well Logs' and it is part of the 'Water Portal'. The 'TEXT SEARCH' section includes fields for Township, Range, Sections (a grid), 1/4-1/4 Section, 1/4 Section, Well Owner Name, Well Street Address, County, Watershed (WRIA), Well Depth (feet), Well Diameter (inches), Notice of Intent, Well Completion Date, Well Log Received Date, and Well Type. There are also 'Select All' and 'Clear All' buttons, and a 'List: 20 (at a time)' dropdown. The 'Sort By' dropdown is set to 'Well Owner Name'. 'Search' and 'Reset' buttons are at the bottom.

Text Search top page

The site is updated every weekend and new well reports are entered into Ecology's database within one to three weeks of being submitted. This Internet site has proven to be a valuable resource for many well drillers, developers, landowners and other users, with up to 1,500,000 visits to the site a month.

For more information

For more information on the Well Log Internet site, please contact Ed Young at (360) 407-6644 (email: eyou461@ecy.wa.gov).



The screenshot shows the 'Well Log Images Map Search' interface in Microsoft Internet Explorer. The address bar shows 'http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/welllog/MapSearch/Viewer.htm?MFASTART=YES&SESSIONID=907154532'. The page title is 'Well Logs' and it is part of the 'Water Portal'. The 'MAP SEARCH' section includes a map of Washington state with county boundaries. Search criteria fields include County, City, Watershed (WRIA), Township/Range/Section, Street Address, and Zipcode. There are 'Zoom In' and 'Zoom Out' buttons, and a 'Zoom Factor' dropdown set to '100%'.

Map Search top page

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