Madera County GSA Dry Well Program
Bidding Guidelines and Driller Requirements
(10/01/2026)

Program Overview

The Madera County GSA Dry Well Program provides financial assistance (of up to $35,000) to eligible landowners within the Madera Subbasin and Madera County Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MCGSA) boundaries whose domestic wells have gone dry or been impacted by declining groundwater levels or subsidence. Funding may be used for either drilling a new domestic well, or connection to an existing community water system. For eligible landowners, additional funding may be available through Self Help Enterprises. Please contact the Program Administrator at (559) 655-6807 for further information.

Program Process

Once eligibility has been finalized and a $100 non-refundable deposit has been submitted, as applicable, the landowner must obtain and provide three (3) written bids from qualified well-drillers using the Bid Item Template included as **Exhibit B**. These bids must include at least two (2) from the MCGSA Pre-Approved Well Driller List. Mitigation work will not be authorized by MCGSA until this requirement has been completed.

Bids solicited from drillers that are not on the Madera County GSA Dry Well Program Pre-Approved Drillers list must be compliant with and include all items identified in Exhibit A.

Prevailing Wage Requirements

Well driller contractors and subcontractors contracted by landowner shall comply with California prevailing wages provisions.

Contractor Qualifications

California Contractor with a C-57 license in good standing with the California Contractors State Licensing Board.

Funding Limits

- Any project costs exceeding $35,000 are the responsibility of the landowner.
- Funding is limited to approved components necessary to restore basic domestic water service.
- For eligible landowners, additional funding may be available through Self Help Enterprises. Please contact the Program Administrator at (559) 655-6807 for further information.

Some examples of authorized/unauthorized well components include, but are not limited to, the items listed below. **This list is subject to change from time to time.** Changes are subject to revision by the Madera County GSA Directors, for the full and current list, please visit https://maderadrywell.com/rules-regulations/.

Authorized

- Well drilling and installation of casing and sanitary seals
- Electrical wiring, conduit, and pump control components necessary to operate the domestic well
- Well completion activities, including system testing, startup, and disinfection
- Other reasonable and necessary components required to establish a functional domestic water supply system for the residence (e.g., minor fittings, connectors, or appurtenances integral to system operation

Unauthorized

- Lowering pump, deepening, or modifying an existing well in lieu of replacement.
- Installation of a well with capacity exceeding that necessary for domestic household use ("oversized well")
- Water lines or plumbing systems serving non-residential structures (e.g., barns, shops, or agricultural uses)
- Irrigation, landscaping, or other non-domestic water system components (including sprinkler system connections)

SI NECESITA AYUDA PARA REVISAR ESTE DOCUMENTO EN ESPAÑOL, COMUNÍQUESE CON EL ADMINISTRADOR DEL PROGRAMA A (559) 655 - 6807.

EXHIBIT A

MADERA COUNTY GSA – DOMESTIC WELL MITIGATION PROGRAM

DETAILED WELL CONSTRUCTION QUOTE

The Madera County GSA Domestic Well Mitigation Program requires participating well drilling contractors to provide detailed and itemized quotes for domestic well replacement projects. Quotes must include all labor, materials, equipment, permits, and services necessary to install a new domestic well. Contractors are encouraged to provide sufficient detail to allow the Program to evaluate project costs and determine eligibility for reimbursement.

REQUIRED SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Contractor shall provide all services necessary to site, design, permit, drill, construct, develop, and connect the well structure to the site distribution system. Any items necessary for successful project completion, whether specifically listed below or not, shall be included in the quote.

All work must be done in accordance with California Department of Water Resources Well Standards Bulletin 74-81/Supplement 74-90 or latest applicable edition/revision and all local ordinances and laws.

The detailed quote shall include all project costs, at a minimum:

- Preparation of preliminary well designs considering the design of the well being replaced, current groundwater levels, and projected groundwater levels.
- Preparation of detailed work plans and cost estimates.
- Well siting consistent with all applicable federal, state, and local requirements.
- Obtaining utility location clearance through USA North 811.
- Obtaining all permits required to drill and construct a new domestic well.
- Maintenance of daily project records.
- Mobilization and demobilization of all personnel, equipment, and materials.
- Drilling of the borehole using the direct rotary drilling method.
- Collection and inspection of drill cuttings at intervals not exceeding ten (10) feet.
- Downhole geophysical surveys including Single Point, 16-inch Resistivity, 64-inch Resistivity, Natural Gamma, and Spontaneous Potential logs.
- Preparation of a final well design utilizing either PVC or steel casing and screen.
- Installation of well casing.

- Installation of a gravel envelope via tremie pipe.
- Installation of a sand/cement grout annular seal via tremie pipe.
- Development of the well through airlifting and pumping until water is clear (5 NTU or less) and sand-free.
- Construction of a cement pad around the well casing.
- Site cleanup and restoration.
- Submission of a Water Well Completion Report (WCR) to the California Department of Water Resources and the appropriate County agency.
- Delivery to the property owner of daily project records, WCR, as-built well diagram, electric logs, and copies of all permits.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Electric Logging: The Contractor shall perform and provide a complete electric log for each well-constructed under this Program. Electric logs shall be included with the final well completion documentation.

Well Casing Size: The Contractor shall determine the appropriate casing size; however, casing diameter shall not exceed six (6) inches. Where an existing pump is proposed for reuse, casing size shall be compatible with the existing pump and installation requirements.

Sanitary Seal Requirements: The Contractor shall comply with Madera County Code Title 13, Chapter 13.52, California Department of Water Resources Bulletin 74 standards, and any additional sanitary seal requirements imposed by Madera County Environmental Health, including requirements associated with known or suspected contamination such as DBCP.

Prevailing Wage: All work performed under this Program is subject to California prevailing wage requirements. Contractors shall comply with all applicable provisions of the California Labor Code, including prevailing wage payment, certified payroll reporting, recordkeeping, and related labor compliance requirements.

EXHIBIT B

MADERA COUNTY GSA
DRY WELL PROGRAM

Company Name:	
License C-57 #:	
Mailing Address:	
Contact Name:	
Phone:	
Email:	
Landowner Name:	
Landowner Property Address:	

Bid Item Template: Madera County GSA Dry Well Program					
Item No.	**Description**	**Units**	**Unit Cost**	**Quantity**	**Extended Costs**
1	Permitting				
2	Mobilization				
3	Electric logging				
4	Well Drilling, installation of casing, and sanitary seals				
5	Install/Re-install submersible pump				
6	Electrical Wiring conduit, and pump control components				
7	Pitless adapter and wellhead fittings				
8	Pressure tank and pressure switch				
9	Trenching and installation of the water service line				
10	Basic plumbing connections, valves, and appurtenances				
11	Well completion activities, system testing, startup, and disinfection				
12	Other reasonable and necessary components required to establish a functional domestic water supply system for the residence (e.g., minor fittings, connectors, and/or appurtenances integral to system operation) ***IF APPLICABLE, PLEASE LIST ITEMS INDIVIDUALLY IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW***				
12A					
12B					
12C					
12D					
12E					
12F					
12G					
12H					
				Total:	

Prevailing Wage Requirements

Well driller contractors and subcontractors contracted by landowner shall comply with California prevailing wages provisions, including California Labor Code sections 1770, 1773, and 1773.1.

NOTE: Contractors are **NOT** required to install all new equipment. Existing equipment that is in good condition and operable may be re-used.