

# Abandoned Works Program

If you have an oil or gas (petroleum) well on your property, here's how you can get it safely plugged.

Ontario 

## Eligibility criteria

Any oil or gas well may qualify for the Abandoned Works Program if both of the following apply:

- an active operator cannot be identified for the well, other than the landowner
- the well has not been used, accessed for benefit, or intentionally tampered with



## Steps to request well assessment

If you want to have a well on your property considered for the program, email [GasAndOilWells@ontario.ca](mailto:GasAndOilWells@ontario.ca) with the following:

- your contact information
- the well location and licence number (if known)
- a description of the wellhead or casing visible, any leaking fluids or gases. Photos are helpful!



## Qualified wells

If your well qualifies for the program, the Ministry of Natural Resources will:

- send an inspector to assess and rank your well based on risks to public safety and the environment. Wells ranked as immediate or significant hazards will be addressed first.
- **arrange and pay for a pre-qualified well contractor to plug the well**, on behalf of the landowner, at the earliest opportunity.



## Access to land

Landowners need to grant access to the well. In some cases, consent from adjoining property owners may be required.



## Info

More information about the Abandoned Works Program can be found at [ontario.ca/GasAndOilWells](https://ontario.ca/GasAndOilWells)

