

CHAPTER 248

(House Bill 888)

AN ACT concerning

Well Drillers - Permit and License Requirements - Exceptions

FOR the purpose of authorizing a person who has not been issued a certain well-drilling permit by the Department of the Environment or a person who has not been licensed by the State Board of Well Drillers to install a certain dewatering device under certain conditions; requiring a person installing a dewatering device under this Act to restore certain subsurface conditions to a certain level; and generally relating to exceptions to permit and license requirements for well drillers.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article - Environment
Section 9-1306 and 13-301
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1996 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Environment

9-1306.

(A) **[A]** EXCEPT AS INDICATED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A person may not drill a well in this State unless the Department issues a permit to drill the well.

(B) A PERSON WHO HAS NOT BEEN ISSUED A PERMIT BY THE DEPARTMENT MAY, AFTER HAVING NOTIFIED THE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH, INSTALL A TEMPORARY DEWATERING DEVICE TO FACILITATE THE INSTALLATION OF UNDERGROUND UTILITIES IF THE DEVICE:

- (1) IS INSTALLED 30 FEET OR LESS BELOW THE GROUND SURFACE;
- (2) IS NOT LOCATED IN ANY TRENCH USED FOR THE INSTALLATION OF UNDERGROUND UTILITIES;
- (3) CONTAINS NO MECHANICAL PUMPING EQUIPMENT BELOW THE SURFACE; AND
- (4) IS REMOVED NO MORE THAN 30 DAYS AFTER INSTALLATION.

(C) A PERSON INSTALLING A TEMPORARY DEWATERING DEVICE UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION SHALL RESTORE THE SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS OF THE INSTALLATION AREA AS NEARLY AS POSSIBLE TO THE CONDITIONS THAT EXISTED BEFORE THE INSTALLATION.