

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPARTA, COUNTY OF SUSSEX,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 19, “WATER”,  
OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPARTA**

**WHEREAS**, the Sparta Township Engineer and Director of Utilities have recommended certain amendments to the Township’s existing municipal water system ordinances contained within Chapter 19 of the Township Code. The Township Council desires to amend Chapter 19 “Water” in order to adopt the requested changes; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Township Council of the Township of Sparta, in the County of Sussex and State of New Jersey, that the amendments and additional sections set forth below are made to the General Ordinances of the Township of Sparta.

**Section 1.** Existing 19-1.4. Permits Required is amended to replaced existing subsection “c” with the following and to re-letter existing subsection “c” as “d” as follows:

- (c) No person shall locate, construct or alter any geothermal well system until a permit for the location, construction or alteration of geothermal well system shall have been issued by the Sussex County Health Department.
- (d) All permits to locate, construct or alter a non-public or public non-community water system shall expire one (1) year from the date of issuance.

Existing 19-1.6. Fees and Charges is amended to add a new subsection “g” as follows:

- (g) The fee for the filing of an application and plans and issuance of a permit to locate, construct or alter a geothermal well system will be through the Sparta Township Construction office and the fee shall be \$65.00.

Existing 19-3.4. Definitions is amended to add the following language:

**CLOSED LOOP GEOTHERMAL WELL** - Shall mean a well into which a continuous closed loop of pipe is inserted for the purpose of non-contact thermal energy transfer from a fluid in the loop to or from the earth.

Existing 19-6.10. Private Well Conversion to Water Utility System, is repealed and replaced with the following language:

After connection to the Township's water utility system, each property owner shall seal their well(s) in compliance with Sussex County Health Department regulations and with the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Resources, and in accordance with the standard specifications for sealing abandoned wells which have been adopted by that agency. All wells must be closed by a New Jersey licensed well driller.

A new Section 19-11 Geothermal Well Systems is added as follows:

19-11. Geothermal Well Systems.

19-11.1. Installation.

- (a) Geothermal wells shall be constructed or altered by a duly licensed New Jersey geothermal well installation contractor who is licensed as set forth pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:9D-1.7 and 1.8 and in complete conformance with the Township standards in effect at the time.
- (b) Geothermal systems must be provided with isolation valves for draining and serviceability.

19-11.2. Geothermal Well System.

- (a) Only Closed Loop Geothermal Well systems are allowed to be installed within Sparta Township. Open loop geothermal well systems are prohibited.
- (b) Cross connections between a private geothermal well system and public water supply systems are strictly prohibited.

19-11.3. Permits.

- (a) All proposed geothermal systems will require a permit application, and must include a list of equipment to be served and system design drawings.

**Section 2.** If any article, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance and they shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 3.** In the event of any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Ordinance and any prior ordinance of the Township of Sparta, the provisions hereof shall be determined to govern. All other parts, portions and provisions of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Sparta are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof.

**Section 4.** If any section, subsection, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portion of this ordinance.

**Section 5.** This Ordinance may be renumbered for purposes of codification.

**NOTICE**

**NOTICE** is hereby given that the above ordinance was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Sparta, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, held on August 23, 2022. It will be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting of the Mayor and Council to be held in the Municipal Building, 65 Main Street, in the Township of Sparta, on September 13, 2022 at 7:00 P.M., and during the preceding week copies of the ordinance will be made available at the Clerk's office in the Municipal Building to members of the general public.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPARTA

KATHLEEN CHAMBERS, RMC  
MUNICIPAL CLERK

**NOTICE**

**NOTICE** is hereby given that the above entitled ordinance was introduced and passed at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Sparta, held at the Municipal Building, 65 Main Street, Sparta, NJ on August 23, 2022. The same came up for final passage and adoption at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Sparta, held on September 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 65 Main Street, Sparta, NJ and after all persons present were given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same, it was finally passed and adopted and will be in full force in the Township according to law.

KATHLEEN CHAMBERS, RMC  
MUNICIPAL CLERK