

**Conservation Federation of Missouri
2014 Resolutions**

Committee: Rivers and Streams

#4

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**Protect Missouri's Underground Aquifers by Encouraging and Assisting with the
Plugging of Abandoned Wells**

WHEREAS, once aquifers are contaminated, it often is extremely difficult or impossible to clean them; and

WHEREAS, in many cases contaminated aquifers cannot be used for drinking water once they are contaminated; and

WHEREAS, some aquifers form part of the habitat for certain species; and

WHEREAS, Missouri has a great number of caves, fisheries, springs, underground rivers, etc. that provide habitat for cave fish, salamanders and other flora and fauna; and

WHEREAS, many abandoned wells are a safety hazard for animals and people, especially small children, who can fall into them; and

WHEREAS, most owners of abandoned wells understand the hazards but are unwilling or unable to pay to properly plug their wells: now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO, this 23rd day of March, 2014 we encourage DNR to enhance their program that will assist with the plugging of abandoned wells.