



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 1, 2018

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August 1, 2018: Daily Update on the Parchment Water Response

KALAMAZOO, MI— The Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department will provide a news release each day at 4:00 p.m. for the community with the latest information, and report on the daily activities surrounding the Parchment Water Response.

Town Hall Details

A Town Hall was held last night, Tuesday, July 31 at Haven Reformed Church with the open house from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and the program from 6:00-8:30 p.m. An estimated 800+ people in attendance were provided an update on the status of the water response activities and had the opportunity to receive more information regarding PFAS, health impacts and plans for interim and long-term water supply solutions. Various news outlets streamed the Town Hall live.

Residents may access the presentations and a full recording of the Town Hall here:

https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse/0,9038,7-365-86511_82704_87495---,00.html

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Since Saturday, July 28, the DEQ has worked in the community to test private residential drinking water wells. To date, they have tested 68 wells. For those not at home, a door hanger was left explaining DEQ's desire to obtain samples from their private water supply. The DEQ is requesting those residents to please get in touch with them right away at 1-800-662-9278 so they can sample your private water well. Residents with their own private water well will be notified right away once results are received. Next steps after you receive your results will be dependent on the results. The Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department will work directly with you.

The DEQ has identified an area where PFAS may have been used and are testing at the Crown Vantage property site. DEQ has collected samples from four (4) out of eighteen (18) existing monitor wells there.

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Parchment Water Hotline: 269.373.5346

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City of Kalamazoo, Public Services

The City of Kalamazoo staff has provided information to the City of Parchment Water Supply System regarding flushing. This information will be provided to each individual customer over the next few days. Additional questions should be referred to the City of Parchment.

DEQ issued a 339 permit to the City of Kalamazoo which allows for connecting pipes to transfer residents on City of Parchment's water supply to the City of Kalamazoo's water supply. All regulation and protocols are being followed. The 339 permit allows for a permanent solution if that is decided. Once sampling results are received from the DEQ, the City of Kalamazoo will begin to connect residents on the City of Parchment's water supply to the City of Kalamazoo's water supply. There is not a date when results will be received at this time. It is important to note that this solution will only connect residents on the City of Parchment's water supply system and not residents with their own private water well.

A boil water advisory for seventeen (17) households will be in effect for City of Kalamazoo residents once construction begins to connect residents on the City of Parchment water supply system to the City of Kalamazoo's water supply system. This is a standard operating procedure for all infrastructure construction projects. Those residents impacted will be notified by the City of Kalamazoo and will be in effect for 72 hours. As construction progresses, additional residents will be notified, as is standard for infrastructure construction. Below is the boil water advisory released today to the seventeen (17) households:

BOIL WATER ADVISORY PLANNED New Water Infrastructure Installation East G Avenue

The City of Kalamazoo is in the process of installing some water infrastructure on East G Avenue that will result in a temporary loss of pressure. Consequently, a precautionary boil water advisory is being issued in cooperation with the Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services Department for all water intended for drinking or ingestion or any consumptive uses within the affected area, including the following areas within the City of Kalamazoo and Cooper Township:

East G Avenue – From Hanson Street (western boundary) to Mount Olivet Road (eastern boundary), both sides of street;

Citadel Street – Northeast corner of Citadel Street and East G Avenue.

This advisory is precautionary only; there have not been any confirmed tests showing bacteria present in the water main at the location of the infrastructure repair. Initial sampling results will be available within 24 hours of its collection and the final set within 48 hours. It is expected that the advisory will be lifted within 72 hours (August 4).

Municipal water customers in the affected area may use bottled water for consumptive purposes or boil their tap water for 2 minutes prior to use for drinking or other ingestion. No special precautionary measures are necessary for water used for personal hygiene.

Water Distribution

Water distribution will continue this week each day from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Parchment High School. There are modified water distribution times for the weekend. Saturday, August 4 and Sunday, August 5, residents may pick-up water from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This includes water delivery services. Residents are asked to verify their address when they pick-up their water supply.

On 7/30/18, 542 cases of water were distributed.

The State of Michigan's purchased water started arriving today. Two semi-trucks each delivered 1,596 cases of 24pack water bottles. Delivery of water will continue on Mondays, Fridays, and Wednesdays until no longer needed.

Since the beginning of the incident, approximately 1,230 volunteer hours have supported water distribution efforts. If you or your organization is interested in volunteering, please contact Shannon Stutz, City of Parchment Treasurer/Clerk at 269-492-3262.

Parchment Water Hotline (269-373-5346)

The Parchment Water Hotline is still operational for residents to call with questions or concerns. Staff from the Health & Community Services Department are on the phones from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.

The majority of calls received are from residents requesting DEQ to test their private water well.

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