



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance...

**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
September 13, 2018

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September 13, 2018: Weekly Update on the PFAS Water Response

KALAMAZOO, MI — A weekly news release will be sent on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. with the latest information surrounding all PFAS-related activities occurring within Kalamazoo County. Residents can also follow www.facebook.com/KalamazooCountyHCS/ or visit www.kalcouny.com/hcs/pfasresponse.php.

Parchment/Cooper Township:

DEQ Study:

To date 277 residential wells have been canvassed for sampling by the DEQ. Of those 218 have been tested. At 53 homes a flyer was left requesting to sample and 4 residents declined sampling. Of the homes sampled, 40 results came back non-detect for PFAS. 49 homes tested at higher than the lifetime advisory level of 70 parts-per-trillion and 15 homes tested at higher than 70 parts-per-trillion PFOA + PFOS. The DEQ will conduct additional residential wells sampling, as warranted, and will continue to evaluate potential source areas.

The DEQ is working to determine the most beneficial areas to set up monitor wells for a hydrogeological study. The purpose of this study is to help determine the scope of the affected area, how the contamination levels change over time, and the directional flow of the groundwater. The hydrogeological study allows for a broader understanding of the contamination than can be provided from testing residential wells alone. The study is set to begin once the DEQ is able to access and install monitor wells in the area.

Water Distribution:

From the time the Water Distribution POD opened on Friday, July 27 until it closed on Thursday, August 30, approximately 825 volunteers contributed over 3,115 hours to helping unload, organize, and distribute bottled water to residents of Parchment and Cooper Township. In total, approximately 32,800 cases of water were distributed.

On September 6 and 8 residents with private wells outside of the area of concern but within the 1.5 mile radius were provided with Gordon's Water as an alternate water source. To date, 173 residences have been set up with Gordon's Water while several have declined this service. Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services continues to attempt to contact several residents within the 1.5 mile radius and outside of the area of concern who have not received this service.

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Parchment Water Hotline: 269.373.5346

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PFAS Filters:

As of August 30, Local 357 plumbers and pipe-fitters volunteered their efforts to install 109 Point-of-Use PFAS filters to residents with residential wells within the area of concern. To date, an additional 143 filters have been distributed to residents for a total of 252 PFAS filters distributed. Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services is still attempting to contact 65 residents with residential wells in the area of concern who have not been provided a PFAS filter.

Parchment Water Hotline:

The Parchment Water Hotline was operational at Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services from July 28 until September 7 for residents to call with questions or concerns. In total, the call center received more than 1,619 calls over 288 recorded hours. Although the Parchment Water Hotline is no longer operational, residents with questions or concerns about PFAS can still call the Kalamazoo County Environmental Health Unit at 269-373-5210.

Richland

The investigation into PFAS within Richland Township started in April 2018, when the initial sample that indicated PFAS with levels higher than the lifetime health advisory of 70 ppt came from an effluent sample associated with the groundwater pumping system at the former Production Plated Plastics facility on E. D Avenue. The residential well sampling commenced after that. The initial investigation area was set, and twenty-nine (29) residents within that area had their private residential water wells tested. Some residents tested received results above the lifetime health advisory of 70 ppt and were placed on bottled water immediately. A town hall was held on July 18 for Richland Township residents. During the town hall, it was discussed that the investigation area might expand in the future.

On August 13, the investigation area for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) was expanded in Richland. To date 62 homes have been sampled and 62 results have been received. The results are as follows:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Number of Wells Sampled: | 62 (as of 8/20/18) |
| Results Received: | 62 (as of 8/30/18) |
| # of Results ND | 36 |
| # of Results between ND and Standard of 70 ppt | 13 |
| # of Results above Standard of 70 ppt | 13 |

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Kalamazoo County Government
Health & Community Services Department

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