

**Kalamazoo County
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

October 10, 2012

Present: Fran Bell, Deb Cardiff, Patricia Crowley, Leroy Crabtree, Jeannie Himmelein, Dan Moyle, Jack Urban, David Harn, Erich Zinser

Absent: Kathleen Buckham, Dawn Potter-Williams, Patricia Randall, Kirsten Rimes, Mike Wetzel, Jim Pearson, John O'Keefe

Environmental Health: Vern Johnson, Heather Nicholas, Gracie Arevalo

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Welcome - Introductions			
2. Approval of Minutes	Minutes for the September meeting were approved		
3. Citizen Comments			
4. EH Updates - Deb Cardiff	<p>Deb sent all EHAC members a copy of the latest sanitary code. This same packet was sent to the BOC. Deb will be presenting the changes to the committee of the whole on Tuesday October 16, 2012. There will be a public hearing tentatively scheduled on December 2nd. This meeting will be set up by Thom Canny, Corporate Council. Deb does not anticipate any issues from the BOC.</p> <p>We are still in the process of hiring for 2 vacant positions in the LWW staff. Deb just gave an offer one of the positions to a woman and she accepted.</p> <p>There were 2 sewer overflows last week. The first sewer overflow was by Fraternity Village Apartment. It appears that someone dug through a sewer line and no one reported it. It is unknown how long the sewage was flowing. The sewage went right into the ditch on the right side of the railroad track where it tunnels under the ground which then pops up in different locations in Arcadia Creek. Two days after that there was another sewer overflow on WMU Campus. This ended up in a storm sewer which also tunnels under the ground and pops up in Arcadia Creek about a mile from the 1st impacted area. EH along with the</p>		

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	<p>City of Kalamazoo went and checked every open area around Arcadia Creek. The city did some testing and impact was found. The rain helped with dilution. Dilution will help to clean this up. There will be more testing done today and Friday. Once levels have decrease the advisory will be lifted.</p> <p>Pat asked if any of the sewage was pumped.</p> <p>Deb said that the sewage is flowing into an open body of water. The best thing for it is dilution. When the sewage dries up the city will be pouring lime to bring the ph up to kill the bacteria. Everything was corrected on both of the flows.</p>		
<p>5. Vapor Intrusion Contaminated Sites David Harn</p>	<p>David Harn did a presentation on Vapor Intrusion. He is part of group called Vapor Intrusion Technical and Program Support Team. They do outreach to the community and awareness of how the state handles vapor intrusion cases weather they are state funded or private sites. He talked about the definition of vapor intrusion: Movement of volatile chemicals from the subsurface into overlying buildings with human receptors. Vapor Intrusion can be residential or commercial. Vapor intrusion influences depth of groundwater, distance from source, contaminant concentration, soil type, building construction and type of contaminant. There are four tiers that MDEQ uses to approach vapor intrusion: Screening level assessment, soil gas investigation, building-specific investigation and response action. David talked more in depth about each individual tier.</p> <p>Deb asked if this was a common problem in SW Michigan as appose to SE Michigan.</p> <p>David said it varies but there are a lot of sites in Michigan that have a lot of shallow water depth.</p> <p>Deb asked if the chemical levels are detectible so that humans know that they are harmful</p> <p>David said that they could be.</p> <p>What is the percentage difference between residential vs. commercial?</p>		

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	David said there are a lot more commercial properties. It is a high priority for lending institutions. Pat asked if concrete was a good barrier. David said no.		
Member Comments	Jeanne- This will be the last meeting. She thanks EHAC for the opportunity. MSUE is working on getting someone to be an EHAC member. Pat-Finishing a project with land bank homes on Willard Street. There are 2 new land bank homes. They will be picking up that storm water and treating it.		