# Petroleum cleanup at 7479/7481 Able Street, Fridley

This Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) fact sheet provides an update on petroleum contamination cleanup and mitigation activities at 7479/7481 Able Street in the city of Fridley. This site, in a residential neighborhood, is bounded by Able Street on the west and Baker Street on the east. The location of the site is shown on page 3 of this fact sheet.

#### Site history

In July 2002, the MPCA Emergency Response Team received a report that water and a petroleum product were seeping into the basement of the duplex at 7479/7481 Able Street. An investigation was conducted, and the release was identified as minor. The site was closed later in 2002. The source of contamination was a suspected heating oil tank in the area of Baker Street, but the exact location could not be determined.

In 2009, during an MPCA investigation on a property adjacent to 7479/7481 Able Street, the leak site at 7479/7481 was reviewed, and the MPCA determined a reopening of the site was warranted. The MPCA felt that additional investigation was needed to determine risks from existing contamination to nearby residences, water supply wells, surface water, and underground utilities.

In 2011, after heavy rain, water and petroleum again entered the basement along the east wall of the duplex. The MPCA Petroleum Remediation Program was notified of the release and determined that action was needed to manage environmental and human health risks. An interior drain tile and sump system was installed to collect water and petroleum product and an active venting system was installed to reduce vapor risks.

Both incidents at 7479/7481 Able Street have been attributed to the same suspected heating oil tank. After three years of investigation the full extent of contamination in the area has been defined and the MPCA now understands the release from that tank to be much larger than originally thought.

Petroleum product was found in soils at the site, both below the former 7479/7481 Able Street duplex and extending to the east of Baker Street (see map, page 4).

## Petroleum contamination cleanup and mitigation activities

Petroleum contamination posed a risk if left on site. The duplex at 7479/7481 Able Street was at risk of petroleum vapors and groundwater intruding into the basement. The sanitary sewer in Baker Street and on the Fridley Terrace Mobile Home Park property adjacent to Baker Street was also susceptible to inflow of petroleum vapors and liquids.

Because of these risks, and the potential for long-term maintenance costs of existing mitigation systems, the MPCA determined that the best course of action was to purchase the duplex and remove the building as part of planned contaminated-soil-excavation activities. The MPCA purchased the building in August 2012 and conducted demolition and soil-excavation activities in September and October of 2013.

Specifically, the following corrective actions were completed:

- Removal of the duplex and garage on the property at 7479/7481 Able Street to facilitate the excavation and removal of petroleum-impacted soil from the site.
- Removal of approximately 160 feet of the sanitary sewer line in Baker Street to facilitate the removal of petroleum-impacted soil adjacent to the sewer and replacement of the sewer.
- Lining the sanitary sewer on the Fridley Terrace Mobile Home Park property adjacent to Baker Street.
- Excavation of petroleum-impacted soil from the east side of Baker Street all the way to the former site of the duplex at 7479/7481 Able Street (see map, page 4).

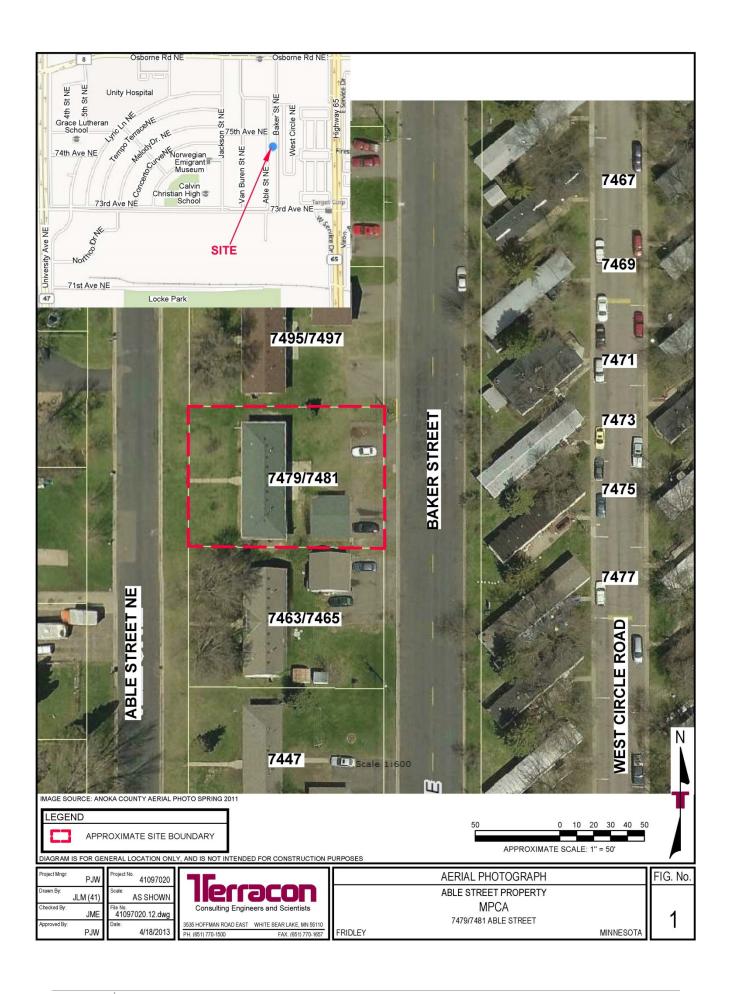
### **Next steps**

Over the coming months the MPCA will continue postexcavation monitoring of the surrounding area until the MPCA determines closure of the site is possible.

#### For more information

For more information about remediation activities at the site, contact MPCA Project Manager Kate Lewison (phone 507-206-2615, email katherine.lewison@state.mn.us).

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