

January 15, 2019

The Honorable John Persell  
Chair, House Environment and Natural  
Resources Policy Committee  
437 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Dale Lueck  
Ranking Minority Lead, House Environment and  
Natural Resources Policy Committee  
311 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Rick Hansen  
Chair, House Environment and Natural  
Resources Finance Division  
407 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Dan Fabian  
Ranking Minority Lead, House Environment and  
Natural Resources Finance Division  
287 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable David Tomassoni  
Ranking Minority Lead, Senate Environment and  
Natural Resources Finance Committee  
2235 MN Senate Building  
95 University Avenue West  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Carrie Ruud  
Chair, Senate Environment and Natural  
Resources Policy and Legacy Finance Committee  
3233 MN Senate Building  
95 University Avenue West  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Chris Eaton  
Ranking Minority Lead, Senate Environment and  
Natural Resources Policy and  
Legacy Finance Committee  
2403 MN Senate Building  
95 University Avenue West  
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: 2018 Residential Well Sampling for PFAS Compounds

As specified in Minn. Stat. 115B.171, the MPCA provided the attached information to the communities in the East Metropolitan area impacted by PFAS groundwater contamination.

In addition, during 2018, the MPCA incurred \$423,339 in analytical costs and \$104,531 in contractual costs to collect samples from residential wells. These costs included first time sample collection from numerous residences in the East Metro area, ongoing monitoring of residences previously sampled to evaluate trends in contaminant levels, and appropriate quality control samples for data validation. These costs are reimbursable from 3M under terms of the May 22, 2007 Consent Order between 3M and the MPCA.

If you have additional questions regarding residential well sampling in the East Metropolitan area, please contact Gary Krueger of my staff at [gary.krueger@state.mn.us](mailto:gary.krueger@state.mn.us), or at 651-757-2509

Sincerely,



Greta Gauthier  
Assistant Commissioner of Legislative and Intergovernmental Relations  
Commissioner's Office

DATE: January 15, 2019

TO: East Metro Community Representatives  
3M – Government Working GroupFROM: Kirk Koudelka *KK*  
Assistant Commissioner

PHONE: 651-757-2241

SUBJECT: 2018 Residential Well Sampling for PFAS Compounds

As specified in Minn. Stat. 115B.171, the MPCA is providing the following information to the communities in the East Metropolitan area impacted by PFAS groundwater contamination.

Since 2003, the MPCA and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) have coordinated efforts to sample and monitor private residential water supply wells in South Washington County to monitor PFAS impacts and identify wells that exceed MDH drinking water guidance. Should MDH determine a drinking water advisory be issued to a homeowner, the MPCA will offer to provide an alternate source of drinking water (bottled water) until a whole-house treatment system can be installed or city water connected to that residence. The MPCA will also maintain treatment filters installed, so long as the drinking water advisory remains in effect.

As shown in the attached information, broken down by community, 809 residential wells were sampled in 2018 and, of those, 351 well advisories were issued. These 2018 numbers account for approximately 30% of all residential wells sampled and advisories issued since PFAS sampling began in 2003. A similar number of residential wells sampled in 2018 are planned for sampling in 2019.

MDH also samples both public drinking water supply wells, along with non-community water supply wells (i.e. schools, churches, greenhouses) to monitor PFAS impacts to public water supplies. All PFAS samples collected, both from public and private drinking water wells, are analyzed by the MDH Environmental Lab.

A majority of the private wells sampled in 2018 were sampled for the initial time. In particular, nearly half of the residential wells sampled in 2018 were located in West Lakeland Township. This significant increase in sample numbers was primarily due to the lowering of drinking water criteria for PFAS compounds by MDH in May 2017. The lower drinking water PFAS criteria, established by MDH, not only increased the number of wells to be sampled, but greatly expanded the groundwater area of concern.

Given that a significant area of impact was sampled for the initial time in 2018, evaluating trends in PFAS contaminant levels in these areas would not be possible at this time. In those areas of more frequent/historic monitoring, such as in Cottage Grove, Lake Elmo and Woodbury, overall concentrations of PFAS compounds detected appear to be stable or declining. However, given the very complex hydrologic conditions in the East Metro, there are some areas in which trends in PFAS levels appear to be slightly increasing.



For example, levels of PFOS appear to be either stable or trending up in wells located in the River Acres/Langdon area of Cottage Grove. PFOA detected in this same area is increasing in some wells, while decreasing in others. In areas around Goodview/Granada Avenues and the central part of the Pine Coulee neighborhood, levels of PFOA appear to be increasing in some wells.

In Lake Elmo, levels of PFOS and PFOA found in the Stonegate development have indicated a slight increase in some wells, but most are stable or decreasing. In other developments such as Torre Pines, Parkview and Cardinal Ridge, there has been a significant decrease in levels of PFOA and PFOS.

Overall, levels of PFAS in Woodbury residential wells are generally stable, with PFOA found at trace levels.

In all of these areas mentioned above, and in areas of the county sampled for the first time in 2018, the MPCA and MDH will continue to monitor levels of PFAS compounds in groundwater and evaluate trends in concentrations.

Updated PFAS impacted groundwater plume maps will be posted on the MPCA and MDH's web sites. Detailed sample lists by community, along with sample results can be provided upon request.

In response to numerous requests from Washington County residents, MDH developed an on-line sample request form for residents to request their residential well be sampled for PFAS compounds. In 2018, MDH received 174 request forms from Washington County residents through the on-line system. MDH and MPCA also received nearly 300 requests for well sampling by other means such as phone calls, emails or in-person, at various public meetings held in the east metro communities. MDH staff prioritized these requests to ensure those in areas of highest priority would be sampled first. It should be noted that a significant majority of requests received were for private wells already planned for sampling in 2018. There does remain approximately 100 lower priority requests to schedule for PFAS sampling. These are in areas where neither PFOS nor PFOA have been identified, however will be incorporated into 2019 sampling activities. Utilizing the sampling results, the MPCA has also developed an on-line interactive map which indicates locations of wells sampled, well advisories issued, and planned sampling areas, and provides a link to the online sampling request form.

Report contributors:

Ginny Yingling – Minnesota Department of Health  
Tim Lockrem – Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
Gary Krueger – Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

## EAST METRO PFAS RESIDENTIAL WELL SAMPLING -- 2018

### Private Wells\*

Community	No. Wells Sampled in 2018	Advisories Issued in 2018	No. Wells Sampled Since 2003	Advisories Issued Since 2003	Total Samples since 2003
Afton	79	23	134	30	172
Cottage Grove	132	25	653	190	2454
Denmark Twp	2	0	98	0	153
Grey Cloud Island Twp	7	2	107	65	356
Hastings (Ninenger Twp)	2	1	12	4	18
Lake Elmo	102	3	663	294	2469
Lakeland/Lakeland Shores	60	17	63	17	63
Maplewood	15	1	47	6	79
Newport	0	0	23	1	53
Oakdale	0	0	13	1	19
St. Mary's Point	1	0	1	0	1
St. Paul	2	0	16	0	16
St. Paul Park	11	7	18	9	32
West Lakeland Twp	368	272	665	467	725
Woodbury	28	0	190	1	438
<b>Total Wells Sampled</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>2703</b>	<b>1085</b>	<b>7048</b>

\*source - Minnesota Department of Health