



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance...

**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
September 27, 2018

Matt Johnson, Public Information Officer
pio@kalcouny.com
269-373-5271

September 27, 2018: Weekly Update on Kalamazoo County Water Quality

KALAMAZOO, MI — A weekly news release will be sent on Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. with the latest information surrounding all water quality 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:

The Michigan Department of Health & Human Services has delivered educational materials regarding PFAS to all public libraries in the area. These materials include the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) documents relating to PFAS.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has begun installing monitor wells around the area of investigation in Parchment and Cooper Township. 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 that can be provided from testing residential wells alone.

Residents in Parchment City that have not flushed their system must do so before they start using their water again. Home Flushing Instructions can be found here www.kalcouny.com/hcs/pfasresponse.php, under the Contact & More Information Section.

All residents inside of the investigation area set by MDEQ have been offered PFAS filters. To date, 310 filters have been provided. All residents outside of the investigation area, but inside of the 1.5-mile radius of the original water distribution site, have been offered bottled water. To date, 340 homes have received an in-home bottled water system.

The municipal water supply in the city of Parchment continues to be monitored for PFAS and other contaminants to assure that the water remains at a drinkable standard.

Residents with questions or concerns about PFAS can call the Kalamazoo County Environmental Health Unit at 269-373-5210. If your questions relate to canning or vegetable gardens, please read the Frequently Asked Questions from the Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD) website for current information, https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse/0,9038,7-365-86704_86710---,00.html

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Parchment Water Hotline: 269.373.5346

www.facebook.com/KalamazooCountyHCS/ | www.kalcouny.com/hcs

Richland

To date, 62 homes in Richland Township 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 Non-Detect	36
# of Results between Non-Detect and Standard of 70 parts per trillion	13
# of Results above Standard of 70 parts per trillion	13

Residents with results above the standard of 70 parts per trillion (ppt) have received a filter. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) started the planning for a hydrogeological study of groundwater in Richland Township. 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 that can be provided from testing residential wells alone.

Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services has and will continue to work with residents one on one to inform and provide responses to questions and concerns. Residents with questions or concerns about PFAS can call the Kalamazoo County Environmental Health Unit at 269-373-5210. If your questions relate to canning or vegetable gardens, please read the Frequently Asked Questions from the Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD) website for current information, https://www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse/0,9038,7-365-86704_86710---,00.html

Alamo Township



On September 1, 2018, The Allegan County Health Department in unison with Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services Department received notification from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) that preliminary test results for 16 residential wells in the Otsego area (17 in Allegan County and 3 in Kalamazoo County) indicated low or trace levels of dioxins* present in water wells. Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department immediately provided those three residents with bottled water and have continued to work with them on a one-on-one basis.

For more information on Dioxins and the Allegan County response, please visit the Allegan County Health Department Website: <http://cms.allegancounty.org/sites/Office/Health/Lists/Announcements/Default.aspx#.W60tB krLRa>

*Dioxins are a group of chemicals that may be formed during chemical and paper manufacturing. Two dioxins were found in the wells, 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin and 2,3,7,8,-tetrachloroibenzofuran.

###

Kalamazoo County Government
Health & Community Services Department

 [Like Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services](#)  Follow us [@KzooHealth](#)