



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance...

**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
October 4, 2018

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October 4, 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.kalcountry.com/hcs/pfasresponse.php.

Parchment/Cooper Township:

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) announced this week that Georgia-Pacific, LLC, will be working closely with the State to identify the source(s) of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) that affected the City of Parchment's water supply and private drinking water wells in the City of Parchment and Cooper Township. Georgia-Pacific has voluntarily agreed to develop and implement the planned hydrogeological study in the area, at its own expense, and under the MDEQ's supervision.

The MDEQ met with representatives from Georgia-Pacific and its consultant, Tetra Tech, Inc., this week to further discuss the planned hydrogeological study and schedule for implementation. Currently, Georgia-Pacific, with assistance from the MDEQ, is working to obtain the necessary access and any required permits for drilling activities. Field work related to the hydrogeological study is tentatively planned to begin in late October or early November.

Residents in the City of Parchment that have not flushed their system must do so before they start using their water again. Home flushing instructions can be found here www.kalcountry.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, 312 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.

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

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Parchment Water Hotline: 269.373.5346

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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

Additional information regarding PFAS can be obtained from the State’s PFAS website:
www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse

Richland

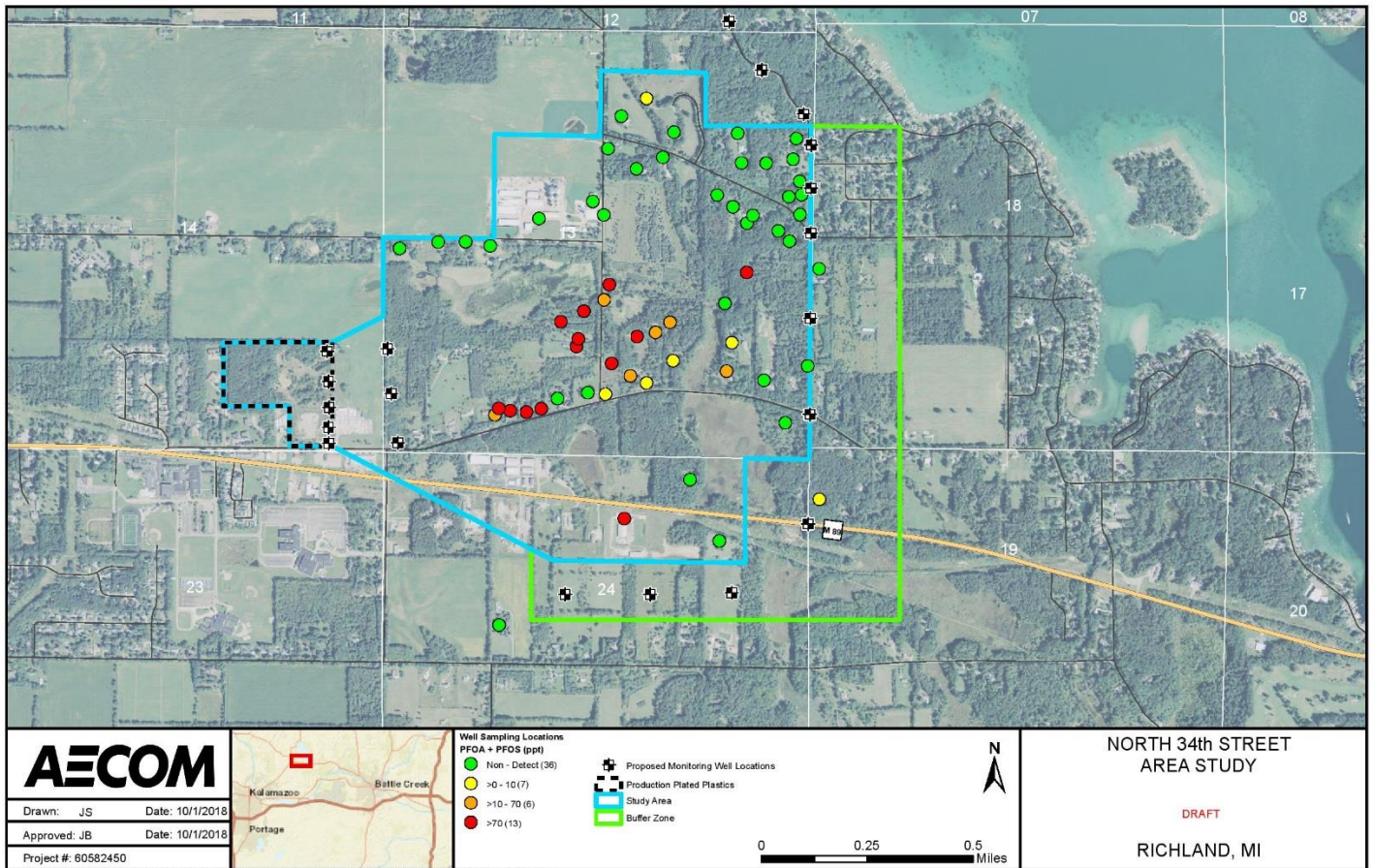
The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), in partnership with State and local health officials, Richland Township, the Gull Lake Sewer and Water Authority, and the City of Kalamazoo, has completed sampling and received results from 62 residential water wells near the former Production Plated Plastics Site. Residents that have had a water sample collected from their private drinking water well have either been offered a filter or an alternate water source, depending on the results of their water sample. The sampling results are summarized in the following table:

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 (PFOA + PFOS)*	13
# of Results above Standard of 70 parts per trillion (PFOA + PFOS)	13

*NOTE: 70 ppt of combined PFOA/PFOS is the EPA’s Lifetime Health Advisory Level

The sampling results for PFOA + PFOS, the two PFAS for which the EPA has issued a Lifetime Health Advisory, are also summarized in the above table. These data indicate that the current extent of residential drinking water wells impacted above 70 ppt has been defined. Additional PFAS were also included in the testing and may be present in drinking water wells. At this time, the EPA has not established health-based criteria for these other PFAS and it is not clear what, if any, health effects may be caused by some of these other PFAS.

The next step to assuring that Richland Township’s water is protected is a Remedial Investigation (RI) to determine the nature and extent of PFAS contamination in the groundwater. The RI will include the installation and sampling of monitoring wells along the boundary of the current study area, as shown on the below figure. Work associated with the RI is anticipated to start in late October or early November.



Additionally, the Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department will provide filters to residents within the identified green buffer area, if requested, while the RI work is being conducted. If at any time during the RI sampling results indicate the need to expand the residential well sampling, the MDEQ will contact the potentially affected property owners and schedule sampling of their well.

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:

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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 20 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.

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Kalamazoo County Government
Health & Community Services Department

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