

**Informational Flyer on Groundwater Contamination in the area of
Hecker Road between Viebahn St. & Silver Creek Rd, CTH CR between
Viebahn St. & Silver Creek Rd., Viebahn St. between CTH CR and S. 35th Street
December 3, 2016**

Brief History

The City of Manitowoc owns the Newton Gravel Pit, located at 3130 Hecker Rd in the Town of Newton. In the 1960s and 70s, the Gravel Pit was used for waste disposal including discharge of liquid industrial wastes, such as petroleum products and chlorinated solvents.

In the early 1990s, the WDNR became aware of the historic waste disposal practices at the Newton Gravel Pit, and began regulating this site for the protection of the environment and human health. The City of Manitowoc hired a consultant, AECOM, to investigate the contamination and define its extent. Soil borings and groundwater monitoring wells were installed to analyze soil and groundwater. The investigation regarding contamination will continue until all sources of the contamination are located.

The City and its consultant, along with the WDNR Remediation & Redevelopment, Drinking & Groundwater, Water Resources, Fisheries Programs, and County & State Health Departments are working together to protect residents' human health and the environment in the affected area.

The City and AECOM have sampled approximately 80 private wells since October 2013. Private well water testing conducted in November 2013 and January 2014 found that seven private wells were contaminated. Fall 2014 well water testing confirmed eight new impacted wells. October 2015 testing confirmed three affected wells. October 2016 testing confirmed two additional affected wells, for a total of 20 impacted wells. Residents in homes with impacted wells are being provided with a safe water supply at the City's expense.

The City of Manitowoc considered a number of options to provide a safe, long-term drinking water solution for the 20 impacted properties. Nine new wells have been installed at impacted properties that were not located near an existing water main and have had no detectable levels of contamination. Nine homes, including several in the City limits, are being served with municipal water from a nearby main. The two most recently impacted wells will be having new, deeper wells installed.

The City and its consultant, in cooperation with the WDNR, will continue sampling potable wells and conducting investigation activities. Appropriate actions will be taken based on the results of these activities and will be presented in the future.

Project information can be found at www.manitowoc.org/gravelpit.

Q&A

1) How do chemical contaminants move in soil and groundwater?

When liquid chemicals are spilled accidentally or dumped into the environment, they can infiltrate and spread through soils or groundwater. The speed the chemical contaminants can move or spread at depends on the type of material it is moving through (quicker through sand & gravel, slower through silt and clay) and the characteristics of the chemical

contaminants. When interacting with groundwater, chemical contaminants are dissolved in groundwater and follow the direction of groundwater flow.

2) Is my property or private well vulnerable to contaminants moving from the Newton Gravel Pit?

The impacted properties are to the east, northeast, and southeast of the Newton Gravel Pit because chemical contaminants are moving horizontally in groundwater, which generally flows to the east and southeast. The chlorinated contaminants that are moving with groundwater are heavier than water, so they also tend to move vertically. This means that both shallow and deep wells are affected.

3) What is being done about the contaminated wells?

The WDNR Drinking and Groundwater Program is working with the City to protect the health of local residents whose homes are impacted. The homes that were identified with drinking water impacts above the WDNR Enforcement Standard have received a temporary clean alternative water source until a permanent solution is installed. A larger well survey has been conducted and the potable wells will continue to be monitored.

4) Is surface water in Silver Creek impacted by chemical contaminants from the Newton Gravel Pit?

The portion of Silver Creek near the Site is fed by groundwater, so it is exposed to the contaminants moving in groundwater. Based on surface water data collected to date, the chemical contaminant concentrations in Silver Creek are unlikely to cause long term exposure risks based on contact with the water or consumption of fish. Contaminant concentrations degrade naturally and are readily diluted as contaminants interact with more clean surface water flowing in the creek. Surface water will continue to be monitored to ensure there are no changes in the exposure risks.

For More Information

Hard copies of site-related documents and data are being held in a repository at the Manitowoc City Attorney’s Office, located at the Manitowoc City Hall.

If you have any information to provide about historic disposal activities or dumping of solvents in this area, please call the confidential WDNR Tipline at 1-800-TIP-WDNR (1-800-847-9367) or cell #367. If you have any additional questions or concerns regarding this contamination, please feel free to call the following departments:

City of Manitowoc	Kathleen McDaniel	(920) 686-6990
WDNR Remediation & Redevelopment Program	Tauren Beggs	(920) 662-5178
WDNR Drinking & Groundwater	Liz Heinen	(920) 993-7056
Wisconsin Department of Health Services	Adam Streiffer	(608) 266-9337
Manitowoc County Health Department	Amy Wergin	(920) 683-4155

