

Private Well Contamination in Plumstead Township Update: October 27, 2010

Revised timeline of remedial work

October 21	DEP re-sampled 10 private wells where residents are currently using tanker water
October 29	DEP expects to receive sampling results for 10 private wells
Nov. 1-5	DEP will mobilize to drill new residential wells
Nov. 1-12	DEP to contact individual homeowners regarding their chosen remedy

Sediment removal from ponds

DEP met with Lewis Environmental on October 21 at the site prior to any sediment removal from the ponds. The pond at 5189 Stump Road has been emptied and sediment removal work there will begin when equipment has been mobilized, weather permitting.

Pond water from the EMS pond, as well as any additional rain water collected in the pond at 5189 Stump Road, will be discharged into the sanitary sewer and conveyed by the Bucks County Sewer Authority to a wastewater treatment plant. Reduced levels of contamination in the pond water now make it possible for the Authority to accept the water being removed from both ponds.

Drilling contractor selected; remedies to be determined soon

Through the state's Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act, Raab Well Drilling, Inc. of Perkasio will install monitoring wells and needed replacement wells for residents whose private wells remain impacted by the June 29 fire at 5189 Stump Road.

A final decision about well replacement will be made following DEP's evaluation of the last two rounds of sampling. At that time, DEP will meet with residents to explain HSCA regulations for providing a remedial response and will discuss the proposed remedy for their home water supplies.

All residents whose wells have been sampled will have their water sampled again in the coming year. Those who receive new wells or filtration systems will have their water tested frequently during the year ahead, to ensure safe drinking water.

Monitoring wells also will be sampled on a regular schedule.

Contact: For additional information about the timeline for upcoming events and decisions, please contact Deborah Fries at 484-250-5808.