



Department of Environmental Protection

McGilpin Road in Sturbridge Project Update for the Week of August 7, 2017

Residential and Direct Well Sampling

MassDEP completed its third round of residential sampling on McGilpin Road in June. Along with the samples from the homes, MassDEP also completed direct well sampling at selected homes. We had expected to have access to only 6-8 wells, but were able to sample 23 wells at the wellhead directly. Those results are included on the summary table with the results from the previous sample locations at the homes. The complete data packages for this round of sampling are available upon request, but are voluminous.

The third round of sampling of home plumbing systems found concentrations of total lead in samples collected *before* home treatment systems or pressure tanks ranging from below the detection limit to a maximum of 880 ug/l. Concentrations of total lead in samples collected *after* treatment or the pressure tank range from below the detection limit in 30 of the 36 samples to a maximum of 18.3 ug/l. The June sampling of residential wells at the wellhead detected concentrations of total lead in well water ranging from below the detection limit in 12 of the 23 wellhead samples to a maximum of 6.6 ug/l, which is below the MassDEP Drinking Water Action level of 15 ug/l.

Using these results, we are now refining our residential sampling plan and developing a schedule for follow-up sampling. We have also sent the data to our colleagues at the USGS and hope to receive input from them about future sampling.

Installation of Monitoring Wells

MassDEP activated a statewide contract this week for contractor services to assist with conducting geophysical investigations in preparation for the installation of monitoring wells at locations between the Southbridge Landfill and McGilpin Road, including on property owned by Southbridge Recycling and Disposal Park (SRDP). Responses from contractors are due August 9, 2017. We have had to adjust the schedule for subsurface investigation to begin in early fall, rather than late July because of the inaccessibility of some of the potential locations.

Surface Water and Sediment Sampling

DEP conducted additional surface water and sediment sampling in and around the Southbridge Landfill and McKinstry Brook during the week of July 24th. We received the data this week and are compiling it now. As with the residential sampling, we plan to share this data with the USGS and hope to receive their input.

Review of other potential sources

No additional update. MassDEP has identified other properties that may warrant additional investigation. Specifically, two parcels on McGilpin Road have been described as old junkyards or as having buried debris. To date, MassDEP has conducted surficial investigations, including a magnetometer survey and ground penetrating radar survey at one property. MassDEP will continue to

evaluate if further investigation of these parcels is needed, as additional information is collected and reviewed.