



Department of Environmental Protection

McGilpin Road in Sturbridge Project Update for the Week of June 19, 2017

Residential Sampling

MassDEP began re-sampling at homes on McGilpin Road (these have all been previously sampled) this week. The hope is to complete sampling at all 43 homes by June 30th. This is the third round of sampling at these residences by MassDEP. The first two sampling events were previously conducted between January and May of this year.

Direct Well Sampling

MassDEP conducted direct well sampling at select homes on McGilpin Road this week. This sampling is in addition to the in-home sampling described above and includes sampling the raw water (directly in the well) of certain homes. The Agency also continues to consult with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to develop a sampling protocol that may provide additional information about the bedrock aquifer groundwater and potential sources of lead.

Installation of Monitoring Wells

Last week, MassDEP was onsite at several properties between the Southbridge Landfill and McGilpin Road, including property owned by Southbridge Recycling and Disposal Park (SRDP), to assess physical accessibility, topography and other potential limitations to conducting subsurface investigations for future installation of monitoring wells. This week, we are reviewing our findings, pursuing additional access agreements and remain on track to begin site identification efforts, including geophysics, in July.

Surface Water and Sediment Sampling

Last week, MassDEP staff were onsite at several properties between the Southbridge Landfill and McGilpin Road, collecting surface water and sediment samples for laboratory analysis. Sampling took place at several locations including wetlands in and around the Southbridge Landfill and McKinstry Brook. We expect to have the results of this sampling by June 30 and will determine necessary follow-up actions after we review the data.

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.