



KENDALL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PLANO AREA PRIVATE WATER WELL TESTING RECOMMENDED

Homeowners who obtain their drinking water from private wells in the Plano area are advised to have the water tested for possible groundwater contamination, the Kendall County Health Department announced today.

Routine testing of the city's municipal water wells by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) revealed traces of 1,1,1- trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA), indicating that the contaminants could also be present in the area's private wells.

It is important to note that the trace amounts of 1,1,1-TCA detected in Plano's community water supply do not exceed the groundwater quality standard established by the EPA. However, due to the large volume of water pumped by a community water supply well, the concentration of contaminants in a sample taken from this type of well may be less than the actual concentration of contaminants found in the aquifer (potentially creating a "masking effect"). Thus, due to the potential for the groundwater standard in private wells near the site to be exceeded, the IEPA is recommending that residents on private wells within a defined area be notified of such findings, and empowered to make an informed decision to test their private wells.

Persons with private wells located within the area North of Abe Road extending 800 feet North of Sweetbrier Avenue and Rock creek Road intersection between Little Rock Road and Needham Road, are encouraged to have their water tested by a private laboratory (For a detailed map of the potentially affected area, please visit our website at www.co.kendall.il.us/hhs and click on the hot button along the left hand margin titled **TCA**).

A list of private laboratories approved for testing can be obtained by calling a Kendall County Health Department, Environmental Health Unit representative, at (630) 553-9100, ext. 8026, or again by visiting our website at www.co.kendall.il.us/hhs and click on the hot button along the left hand margin titled **TCA**. Once samples have been analyzed, residents can call the health department for an explanation of the test results.

Exposure to 1,1,1 -TCA for long periods of time may increase the risk of liver, nervous system and circulatory system damage.

Notice of possible private well contamination is required by the Illinois Groundwater Protection Act.

