



# NEWS RELEASE

**Illinois Environmental Protection Agency**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Illinois EPA Notifies Loves Park Community Water Supply of Confirmed Groundwater Contamination**

***Agency Confirms 1,4-Dioxane Detection and Requires Customers to be Notified***

**Springfield, IL** – The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) has notified the **Loves Park Community Water Supply** in Winnebago County that there has been a confirmed detection of 1,4-dioxane from Well #1 at the entry point to the distribution system of Loves Park. Loves Park shut down Well #1 on August 19, 2020, the day the sample confirming 1,4 dioxane was received by the Illinois EPA. This notification is required under Section 25d-3(a) of the Environmental Protection Act [415 ILCS 5/25d-3(a)]. Loves Park Community Water Supply consists of 9,982 direct services, supplying drinking water to an estimated 23,371 individuals.

1,4-dioxane is a volatile organic compound (VOC), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency classifies 1,4-dioxane as a Group B2 probable human carcinogen by all routes of exposure. While there is no maximum contaminant level (MCL) for 1,4 dioxane, if the concentration at the entry point of the distribution system is greater than or equal to 50% of 7.7 microgram per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ), it does trigger notification pursuant to the Environmental Protection Act. 1,4-dioxane has been confirmed at the entry point to the distribution system (Well #1) of Loves Park Community Water Supply at **5.5 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )**.

The Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/25d-3) requires the public be notified within two (2) days after determining that groundwater contamination poses a threat of exposure to the public above the Class I groundwater quality standards. The Act also requires the public drinking water supply, and any secondary users, to provide notification to their customers of this contamination by mail, email, post card, text message or telephone, within five business days of official receipt of the Illinois EPA's notice. The public drinking water supply must provide the Illinois EPA with written proof of the notifications within seven calendar days after they are sent.

This press release and other appropriate notifications will be posted on the Illinois EPA website at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/drinking-water/public-water-users/Pages/notices.aspx>. A factsheet for 1,4-dioxane can be found on the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) website at: <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfags/tfacts187.pdf>.

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