

MEDIA RELEASE

Information **Advisory** **Warning** **Update**

DATE: OCTOBER 14, 2019 / TIME 4:30pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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PFAS Investigation in Fort Gratiot Township

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) is conducting a systematic survey throughout the state to identify areas with elevated levels of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Preliminary testing of surface water/drainage ditches found elevated levels of PFAS in Fort Gratiot Township. EGLE is conducting further sampling over the next several weeks to determine the potential source(s) for the elevated levels.

Testing on the city of Port Huron's municipal drinking water system has indicated no evidence of PFAS. Fort Gratiot Township purchases drinking water from the City of Port Huron. EGLE tests the Port Huron water system monthly and PFAS has not been detected.

Representatives from EGLE and St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) will be evaluating records to determine the need for PFAS testing on neighboring drinking water wells in Fort Gratiot Township.

There is currently no data to suggest a risk to public health for recreational water use and contact. As a general precaution, given the nature of water quality in drainage ditches and storm water detention ponds (i.e., bacterial contamination, etc.) the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and SCCHD recommends handwashing and rinsing pets with fresh water if they come into contact with water from drainage ditches or storm water detention ponds.continued...

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PFAS is a group of man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS and many other chemicals, historically used in manufacturing, firefighting and thousands of other household and other consumer products. These chemicals break down very slowly and can accumulate over time, both in the human body and the environment. These chemicals also may move through soil and groundwater, allowing them to spread through the environment.

PFAS information is available at www.Michigan.gov/pfasresponse. More updates will be available after sampling is completed. Contact the St. Clair County Health Department's Environmental Health Division at (810) 987-5306 for further questions.

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