

Private Wells and Contaminated Sites

Local Health Department Role

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Environmental Epidemiology and Occupational Health Program



Overview

- New Wells
- Existing Wells
- Private Well Guidance
 - Action Levels
 - Testing
- Private Well Database
- Case Example



New Private Wells

- 19-13-B101: Basic Potability required
 - “reasonable grounds” VOCs, selected pest/herbicides, arsenic, selected rads
- Some LHDs require VOCs, naturally occurring contaminants, some have ordinances
- 19-13-B102 Standards, Action Levels too?

Existing Private Wells

- 22a-471- DEEP still investigates gw contamination and impacts to drinking water
 - Coordinate/collaborate with LHD on well testing
 - Know the GW contamination sites in your town
 - Residents no longer covered by 22a-471
- DEEP Spills: well receptor survey

Existing Private Wells cont.

- Wells near contaminated sites
- Wells near Construction/Development/Remediation
- Old Landfills
- Well Testing for Home Sale
- Random Homeowner Well testing
- Daycares
- Public wells as sentinel
- Naturally-occurring contamination



LHD Actions & Resources

- Identify additional wells needing testing
- Require or Recommend Well Testing
- Coordinate with DEEP
- DPH Lab can analyze LHD-collected samples
- DPH Guidance
 - Action Levels , updated Feb. 2013
 - Testing Recs – revised fact sheet May 2013
- EOHA: Risk Assessment/Risk Communication

Private Well Database

- 2009 - Private Well Tracking System begins
 - Exists within MAVEN (reportable disease tracking)
 - Piloted use among several LHDs
 - Includes well location, water test results
 - Data can be viewed in EPHT Portal
- 2013 PWA Grant (2 years)
 - Populate system with more well data (State Lab, DEEP)
 - Statewide sampling for As and Ur
 - Enhanced education/outreach

Case Study-Arsenic

- DEEP investigates elevated As near orchard
- DEEP concludes As naturally occurring
- LHD expands testing across town
- LHD tests ~ 25 additional wells
- 16 exceed dL, 7 of 16 exceed AL (10 ppb)
- LHD holds Public meeting
- Draft Town ordinance - new wells test for As, Ur, VOCs, Pest/Herb and meet ALs