

2022 Ralston Rd Neighborhood Groundwater Assessment Summary

Background

A well survey was conducted on Ralston Road, which is located on the southwest side of Indianapolis in the Camby neighborhood. Addresses range from 5300 to 7000 blocks of West Ralston Road. The area was selected because of the lack of previous sampling data.

Survey Results

A total of 50 residential properties were selected for this survey. Survey letters and postcards were mailed out. Eight properties were found to be vacant. Of the remaining 42 properties, five requested well water samples, resulting in a 12% response rate. Samples were analyzed at the MCPHD Laboratory and results were compared to EPA Drinking Water Standards.

Sampling Results

Bacteria

E. coli bacteria were not found in any samples, but total coliform bacteria were present in wells at 2 properties, or 40% of samples taken. Coliform bacteria are used as an indicator, meaning that while its presence does not cause illness, there could potentially be other disease-causing organisms in the water. Chlorination instructions were sent out with the lab reports and follow-up sampling was attempted.

VOCs

No volatile organic compounds were found above detection limits in any of the samples taken, though it should be noted that four samples were lost due to laboratory equipment problems.

Anions

Well samples were tested for the following anions: Chloride, Fluoride, Nitrates, Nitrites, Phosphates, and Sulfates. All anions detected were below the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs).

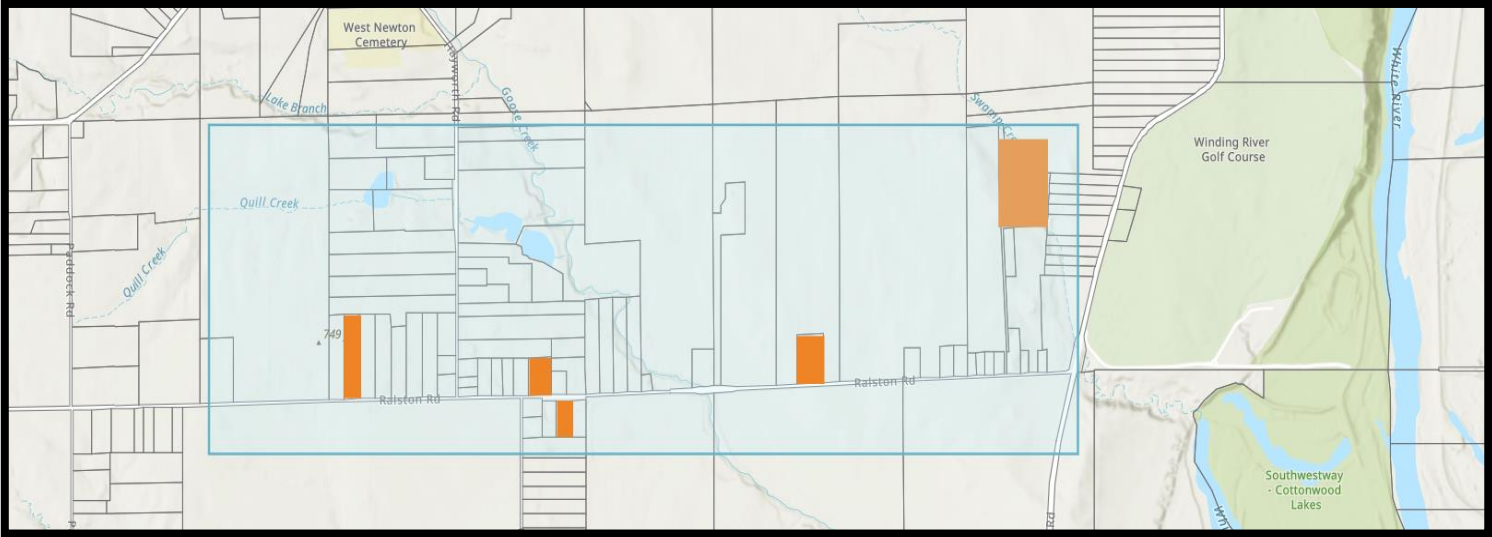
Metals

Samples were analyzed for Arsenic, Barium, Boron, Cadmium, Calcium, Chromium, Copper, Iron, Lead, Magnesium, Manganese, Mercury, Molybdenum, Nickel, Selenium, Thallium, and Zinc. Arsenic was detected in two samples: one below the MCL of 10 parts per billion (ppb) at 4.7 ppb and one above at 37.4 ppb. Arsenic is a naturally occurring element and is commonly found in Marion County wells.

Conclusions

This survey found coliform bacteria in 40% of samples, which is consistent with previous well surveys. Arsenic was detected above the MCL in one home, which represents 20% of samples taken. However, due to the low response rate, it is difficult to accurately characterize the groundwater quality in regards to Arsenic.

Survey Area for Groundwater Assessment



Properties Sampled