

2023 Shetland Neighborhood Groundwater Assessment Summary

Background

The Shetland neighborhood is in Pike Township, on the northwest side of Indianapolis, and was assessed to evaluate the ground water quality of private wells in the area. The neighborhood includes blocks on Lafayette Rd, Shetland and Paddock Ct, Thoroughbred Rd, Kissel Rd, Lafayette Rd and 96th St. Letters requesting well samples were sent to 34 properties with a door-to-door survey following. Samples were collected throughout the summer of 2023.

Survey Results

A total of 34 properties were selected for this survey. Of the 34 homes, only 8 requested well water samples, resulting in a 23.5% response rate. Samples were analyzed at the MCPHD Laboratory and results were compared to EPA Drinking Water Standards.

Sampling Results

Bacteria

Total Coliform bacteria were present in two wells. The unsatisfactory rate is 25%. Chlorination instructions were sent out with the laboratory report and the following instructions resampling dates were scheduled.

VOCs

No volatile organic compounds were found above the detection limits in any of the samples taken.

Anions

Well samples were tested for the following anions: Chloride, fluoride, Nitrates, Nitrites, Phosphates, and sulfates. All anions were below the Maximum Contaminants Limits (MCLs).

Metals

Samples were analyzed for the following metals: Arsenic, Barium, Boron, Cadmium, Calcium, Chromium, Copper, Iron, Lead, Magnesium, Manganese, Mercury, Molybdenum, Nickel, Selenium, Thallium, and Zinc. Hardness was tested as well. All metals were below the MCLs.

Conclusion

The primary groundwater contaminant in the Shetland neighborhood, impacting 25% of wells tested, was Total Coliform bacteria. However, this is consistent with county-wide unsatisfactory levels. The limiting factor is assessing the groundwater quality, like similar well surveys, is the low response rate.