MARION COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
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Perry Manor Neighborhood Groundwater Assessment Summary

Background

The Perry Manor neighborhood is in the southern portion of the City of Indianapolis in Perry Township. Properties located on Locust Dr, Bryan Dr, E. Edgewood Ave, Rural Dr, McFarland Rd, Payne Dr, Marburn Dr, and Busy Bee Ln were included in this survey. Routine monitoring of well water is important to identify and remove harmful contaminants such as Arsenic.

Survey Results

60 properties were surveyed and sent a letter requesting a well sample. 5 of the 60 properties responded and were sampled, resulting in an 8% response rate.

Sampling Results

Bacteria
Coliform bacteria were found in one of the five samples. This 20% unsatisfactory rate is below Marion County average of 40-45%.

VOCs
Only one sample of the five samples contained detectable levels of VOCs, both of which were below the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) set by the EPA. The two VOCs found in this sample were Toluene at 1.5 parts per billion (ppb) and Chloroform at 1.7 ppb. Toluene can routinely be detected in wells with new pumps due to off gassing of pump materials. Chloroform is a disinfection byproduct commonly found after a well was chlorinated.

Anions
Well samples were tested for the following anions: Chloride, Fluoride, Nitrates, Nitrites, Phosphates, and Sulfates. All anions were below the Maximum Contaminant Levels (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. Arsenic was detected in levels above MCL in one of the five samples. The level of Arsenic present was 50.4 ppb, which is considered highly elevated above the EPA drinking water standard of 10 ppb. Fact sheets on arsenic in drinking water were distributed to that residence.

Conclusions

In conclusion, the two contaminants found during this groundwater survey were coliform bacteria and Arsenic. The presence of Arsenic is typically from naturally occurring bedrock and the high level detected may prompt further testing in this area. Coliform bacteria are present in nearly half of all well samples throughout the county, so the presence of coliform in one out of five wells sampled is below average. The major limitations were the low response rate, and few samples collected, which makes characterizing the groundwater quality difficult.

Map of Sampled Residences