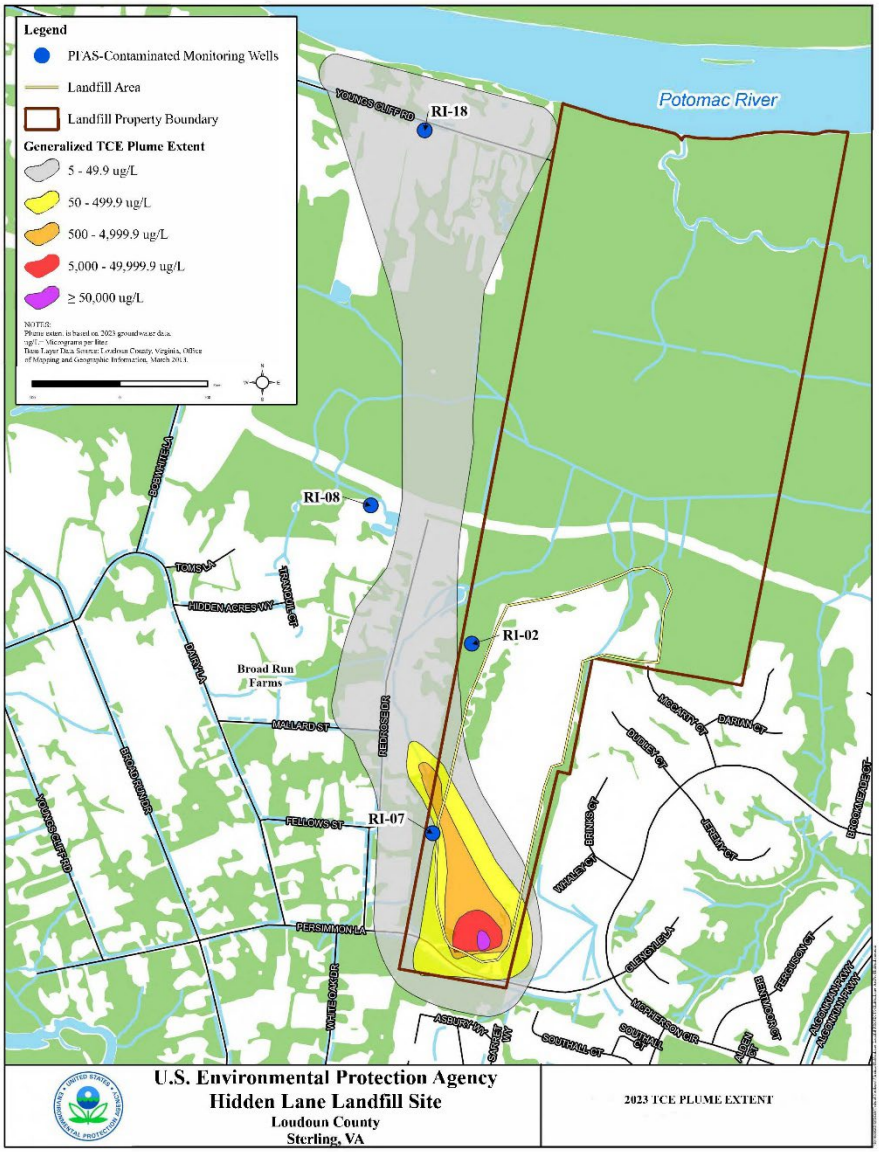
Hidden Lane Landfill Superfund Site

Community Update | October 2024

Site Update

In August of 2024, EPA conducted sampling of several groundwater monitoring wells located on and off the landfill property for an emerging chemical contaminant known as *Per- and Polyfluorinated Substances* (PFAS). PFAS, which are man-made chemicals, are widely used, long lasting chemicals, which break down very slowly over time and have been found in water, air, soil, fish, and most humans at locations across the nation and the globe. The EPA has been evaluating PFAS at many of their sites, in particular former landfill sites, to determine whether it is present or at levels of health concern. Recently, the EPA has listed some PFAS compounds as hazardous substances. EPA has also identified a maximum contaminant level (MCL) for certain PFAS in public drinking water supplies in the U.S.; an MCL is a limit that public water suppliers must be below in the water they provide to their customers.

PFAS were present in the monitoring wells sampled in August, with several detections above the MCL. Monitoring wells were installed many years ago to assess groundwater quality in the community. Some of the monitoring wells access the same groundwater aquifers that residents use for their home water wells, while other monitoring wells access aquifers for sampling groundwater that is not used by residents in the area. EPA's monitoring well network has been installed over time at the Site based on the topography, hydrology, geology of the local environment, and based on analytical sampling results. At the Hidden Lane Landfill site, EPA's monitoring well network is located on all sides of the landfill, with more monitoring wells to the west and northwest, where the site's primary contaminant, trichloroethylene (TCE), has been identified. The monitoring wells are sampled annually for contaminants of concern (COCs) at the Site, which include TCE and its potential breakdown products. Monitoring wells are used to monitor the TCE groundwater plume and are not used for drinking water purposes. EPA does not yet know the extent of PFAS contamination in the groundwater.



What happens next?

Since PFAS were detected in monitoring wells at the site, EPA plans to sample for PFAS in residential wells near the site and in close proximity to the monitoring wells where PFAS has been detected. In the coming weeks, EPA will contact those property owners to seek permission to access their properties to sample their well water. EPA plans to sample properties where point-of-entry water treatment systems (POETS) are present to treat the site-related TCE contamination, and homes where these treatment systems have not been installed. Because some homes may already have an effective treatment system in place that can treat both TCE and PFAS, EPA will sample before and after the treatment of well water in homes equipped with POETS.

If elevated levels of PFAS are detected in private residential well water in the Broad Run Farms community, the Hidden Lane Landfill Superfund Site team will work with its local and state partners to determine next steps to reduce or eliminate unhealthy exposures to PFAS. If PFAS is detected above MCLs or other action levels, additional homes will be sampled until the extent of the site's PFAS contamination has been identified.

If you would like to learn more about the site and Superfund, visit the websites below or scan the QR code with your smartphone.

Hidden Lane Landfill Superfund Site

www.epa.gov/superfund/hiddenlane

Citizen's Guide to PFAS

www.epa.gov/PFAS

Contact information

Please contact us individually or by emailing the Hidden Lane Superfund Site email at R3-Hidden.Lane@epa.gov.

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