

Site Redevelopment Profile

Fridley Commons Park Well Field

61st Avenue NE and 7th Street NE
Fridley, Minnesota 55432

Property Overview

Size

50 acres

Current Site Uses

- City of Fridley's municipal well field
- Fridley Commons Park

Use Restrictions

- Use of one public well is restricted.
- Wells are monitored regularly to ensure protection of human health and the environment.

Surrounding Population

9,861
1 MILE

95,378
3 MILES

248,619
5 MILES

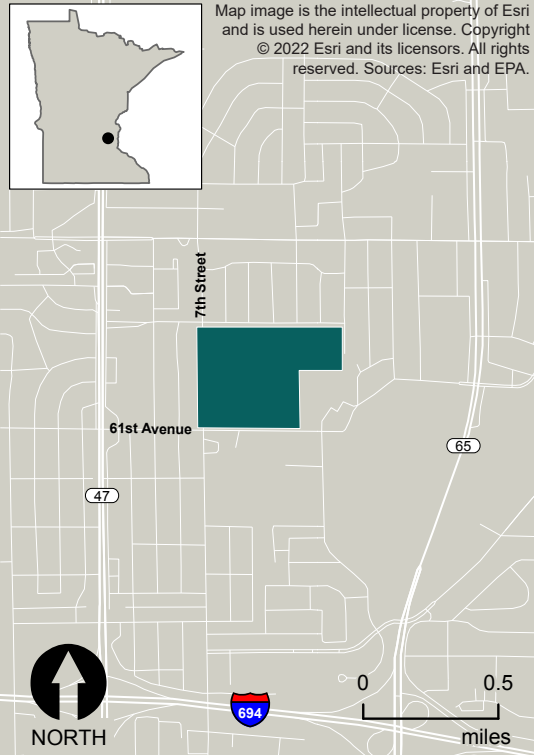


Figure 1. The location of the Fridley Commons Park Well Field site in Minnesota

Site History and Redevelopment Timeline

1950s-1970s

The city of Fridley (the City) purchased the site area and installed eight municipal wells.

1984

The City began on-site well sampling and discovered contamination.

1999

EPA added the site to the Superfund program's National Priorities List (NPL).

2005

Following extensive site investigations and exposure considerations, EPA issued a no action Record of Decision.

2020

EPA removed the site from the NPL.

Present

Site continues to be used as a public park with several year-round amenities. Ongoing water monitoring is in line with the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure no risk to human health or the environment.

History and Cleanup

In 1958, the City acquired what is now the site property. The City installed municipal water supply wells on the site throughout the 1960s and 1970s. After passage of the Safe Water Drinking Act in the late 1970s, the City began testing groundwater in the on-site wells and found trichloroethylene (TCE). TCE is a volatile organic compound and is toxic to humans. The source of contamination is unknown. As an immediate response to protect human health, the City restricted the use of several wells on site.

EPA began site investigations in the early 1990s, placing the site on the NPL in 1999. The Agency determined through its investigation that no cleanup or construction was needed, due to the fact that vapor intrusion risk was minimal and natural attenuation of was effective at lowering contaminant levels over time. EPA removed the site from the NPL in 2020.

The City continues to monitor wells for contaminants, per the Safe Water Drinking Act, to ensure water use is safe for the local community for potable and non-potable uses as appropriate. In 1989, the City took one well out of service, as recommended by the Minnesota Department of Health.

Redevelopment

Thanks to coordination by EPA, state and local officials, the site now supports extensive recreational use without risk of exposure to contamination. Known as Fridley Commons Park, a wide range of amenities are open year-round with easily accessible parking. Summer amenities include baseball, soccer and football fields used by youth sport leagues, as well as lighted tennis courts and the city's largest playground. A picnic area is available for use as event space, with easy access to open air shelter and restrooms with running water, as well as heat, electricity and shared charcoal grills. During the winter, the park continues to support recreation with a popular sledding hill, hockey/skating rinks and a warming house. The City is planning improvements to the park, including installing a splash pad, a loop trail/fitness circuit and additional recreation areas for winter activities.

Providing a vibrant public service to residents, Fridley Commons Park Well Field Superfund site is an excellent example of how early inter-governmental coordination allows for the continued use of an essential community resource.



Figure 2. Commons Park sign and parking lot



Figure 3. Playground and water tower at Commons Park

Contacts

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