



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



MELANIE LOYZIM
COMMISSIONER

TRANSMITTED VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

June 10, 2022

682 Main Street
Vassalboro, ME 04989

Re: Investigation of PFAS in Maine in Vassalboro

Dear Mary Sabins,

As a follow-up to our telephone conversation on June 9, 2022, this letter is to inform you that the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is beginning an investigation into the presence of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from the land application of septage in your municipality. This represents another aspect of the DEP's statewide investigation for the implementation of [Public Law 2021, Chapter 478, An Act To Investigate Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Contamination of Land and Groundwater](#), effective October 18, 2021.

The purpose of DEP's investigation is to identify sites statewide that are impacted by PFAS, identify drinking water supplies that are impacted above Maine's Interim Drinking Water Standard for PFAS, and provide impacted individuals with water that is below the standard.

Septage sites have been identified based on DEP licensing information. Please keep in mind that a site may include several physical locations and may also cross district, town, and county boundaries.

This investigation is being conducted by environmental consultants retained by DEP that have been pre-qualified through a competitive qualification and bidding process. The investigation will include sampling soils and groundwater from properties where septage was licensed to be land applied. The environmental consultant will request permission to sample and test drinking water supplies from individual home and/or property owners in the direct vicinity of the sites. Sampling has not been scheduled yet but will be scheduled during the field season.

PFAS are considered emerging contaminants and are not currently regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). In Maine however, emergency legislation became effective June 21, 2021, setting forth an interim drinking water standard of 20 parts per trillion for the sum of six PFAS (PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFHxS, PFHpA, and PFDA). This is described in [Resolve 2021, Chapter 82, Resolve, To Protect Consumers of Public Drinking Water by Establishing Maximum Contaminant Levels for Certain Substances and Contaminants](#).

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PRESQUE ISLE
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PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769
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Investigation of PFAS in Maine

We understand that you may have questions and concerns regarding our investigation. General questions about the investigation by DEP or that are being conveyed to you through your constituents should be directed to David Madore, Deputy Commissioner and Communications Director, David.Madore@maine.gov, 207-287-5842. You can also visit our webpage located at: <http://www.maine.gov/dep/spills/topics/pfas/index.html>. This webpage is currently under development, but more information about the ongoing investigation is planned to be made available.

Please contact me if you have any questions about an investigation at a specific property. I may be reached at 207-512-0062, or Michael.Jakubowski@maine.gov.

Thank you for your assistance in this important investigation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Jakubowski", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael Jakubowski, Residuals Management Unit Leader
Division of Materials Management
Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management

Copy: Tracy Kelly, DEP