

## Health Department Memo

**To:** David Caroline, Susan Malan  
**From:** Lisa Fasulo, Director of Health  
**CC:** Philip Miller  
**Date:** October 17, 2011  
**Re:** Monitoring Wells & Surface Water Testing for WPCA

I called Eastern Analytical Laboratory, Inc (860-388-2378) and spoke with David Kirpas on October 13, 2011 to clarify which well monitoring sites they currently sample and test within in the Town of Essex. Files on the Health Department computer network and file cabinets show that water sampling has been routinely done since pre-1997 and continues through 2011. Prior to 2008, Environmental Consulting Labs conducted the water sampling & testing but since 2008, Eastern Analytical Labs (EAL) provides this service.

During our telephone conversation, Mr. Kirpas indicated that the following 9 sites are being tested semi-annually. This list of test sites and frequency was agreed upon by Carol Speer and members of the WPCA many years ago. The sites are typically tested in March and September of each year.

#### 4 Surface Water sites:

SW-1	Mud River at Rt. 9 and Bokum Rd.
Sw-2	Mud River at Bokum Rd.
Sw-3	Falls River at Main St., Ivoryton
SW-4	Falls River at River Rd., Essex

#### 5 Monitoring Wells in Essex Village

MW-5A	Town Park near Main St. sidewalk (white well cover)
MW-6	Town Park at rear corner of property near "No Parking" sign
MW-8	Scholes Lane
MW-9	Flag Pole at end of Main Street
MW-10A	Main St. and Novelty Lane

Mr. Kirpas indicated that an additional Phosphate test is added to samples from the MW-8 site due to water bubbling in the area.

Mr. Kirpas also indicated that the well at MW-10A frequently returns poor quality water results since it does not have a well cap directly on the well. The lack of a well cap is most likely due to minimal clearance between the top of the well and the "manhole cover" in the road since this site sits directly under the road at Main St. and Novelty Lane. Mr. Kirpas indicated that when sampling is done at MW-10A, the well pit is usually filled with road sand, silt and road debris. Addition of a suitable well cap may increase the quality of water at this test site.

Currently there is no written contract with Eastern Analytical Laboratory (EAL). Mr. Kirpas said that an older contract with WPCA expired years ago. EAL still directs invoices to WPCA for the water sampling and testing. A recent invoice shows that the cost for sampling and testing these 9 sites is \$449.00. (i.e. \$ 898 per year)

During our conversation I asked David Kirpas to send me the following information:

- cost estimate for the semi-annual sampling and testing of water from the 5 monitoring wells and 4 surface water sites
- list of the sites currently being sampled (location & numerical identification)
- map and coordinates of the sites currently being sampled
- 2009 water quality test results. My department has copies of the paid invoices for March and September 2009 but does not have the results of the tests.

Additionally, Mr. Kirpas said that two surface water sites are routinely tested behind Calamari's on Dump Rd. This is paid for and managed by Mike Birner at the town landfill. The two sites are:

- SW-1 culvert under the Railroad Track – North
- SW-2 culver under the Railroad Track - South