

May 26, 2009

«AddressBlock»

Re: Bavaros Cleaners site
41 E. Grand Avenue, Fox Lake
0970205004 – Lake County
General Correspondence

Dear Sir or Madam:

If you use a private or non-community well for your source of drinking water, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) wishes to give notice under subsection 25d-3 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act that chemical contamination has been detected in the groundwater on the property at 41 E. Grand Avenue in Fox Lake, Illinois – currently known as Bavaros Cleaners.

Information collected from sampling monitoring wells on this site showed significant levels of chemical solvents – tetrachloroethylene (PCE), trichloroethylene (TCE), cis-1,2-dichloroethene (cis-1,2 DCE), and vinyl chloride are present in the groundwater at the site at levels that exceed safe drinking water comparison values. Please refer to the enclosed fact sheet for more specific information about the chemicals, which are from common cleaning solvents. The safe drinking water comparison values, called Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), are developed by U.S. EPA to represent limits of specific contaminants that are safe for public drinking water supplies.

The levels of chemicals in the groundwater at this site pose a threat to area wells. Exposure to low levels over long periods may lead to impaired immune system function and may increase the risk of kidney or liver cancer or other damage. Consequently, the Illinois EPA and the Illinois Department of Public Health recommend that you have your well tested for the presence of these chemicals. This notice is being sent to residents and property owners within 0.3 miles of the site at 41 E. Grand Avenue.

The Bavaros Cleaners site owner is enrolled in a program with Illinois EPA to clean up the contamination, and remediation of contaminated soil is underway at that location. However, solvent contamination that has already made its way into the groundwater may continue to move off site and threaten private wells. Additionally, there could be other sources of similar contamination in the area.

There is a second potential source of the same type of contamination just east of Bavaros cleaners. It is a former dry cleaner location, now part of Lakeland Plaza. A consultant for this former dry cleaner site in Lakeland Plaza recently performed precautionary testing on ten private wells to the north and east of the plaza. The laboratory results from those well samples did not show any of the contaminants of concern listed above. Please see the enclosed fact sheet for more information on that site.

The Fox Lake Public Water Supply well #2, in this notification area, has shown recent low-level contamination by Methylterbutyl Ether (MTBE - a gasoline additive) and cis-1,2-DCE (one of the same solvent-related chemicals). Well #4, which is south of this notification area has recently had detections of solvent-related chemicals as well. The detections of chemicals have not resulted as yet in any violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act for the public water supply. A separate information notice about this is

being provided in the form of a news release to news media and a three-week legal notice in a local newspaper. Please see the news release at: <http://www.idph.state.il.us/public/press09.htm>.

For your use, we have enclosed a list of laboratories in Illinois that are approved to analyze water samples for this type of contamination, a list of chemicals recommended for analysis, and the procedures for collecting water samples. Once samples have been analyzed at a laboratory, you may contact the Illinois Department of Public Health, West Chicago Regional Office at 630/293-6800 for an explanation of the test results. [Illinois EPA cautions private citizens that may try to collect their own water sample: the chemicals that the sample will be tested for – volatile organic compounds – may evaporate into the air while drawing the sample, if proper procedures are not followed.]

If you do have your well tested, Lake County Health Department would like to see a copy of your results, so they may continue to monitor the contamination issues in the county.

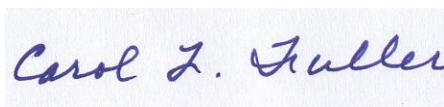
If you have any questions about this mailing, you may contact:

Carol L. Fuller
Community Relations Coordinator
Office of Community Relations
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
carol.fuller@illinois.gov
217/524-8807

Mr. Larry Mackey
Food & Water Well Program Coordinator
Lake County Health Department
121 E. Grand Avenue
Lake Villa, Illinois 60046
lmackey@co.lake.il.us
847/377-7788

Mr. Joe O'Connor
IDPH West Chicago Regional Supv.
245 W. Roosevelt Road, Building #5
West Chicago, Illinois 60185
Joe.O'connor@illinois.gov
630/293-6800

Sincerely,



Carol L. Fuller
Community Relations Coordinator
Office of Community Relations