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CITY OF STAMFORD
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Dear Resident:

As you likely know, there have been a number of wells in North Stamford that have tested positive for the presence of the pesticides, chlordane and/or dieldrin, at levels that may present a health risk. These substances were used from the 1950s through the 1980s to combat termite infestation and other pests but have since been banned by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) because they are considered to be health hazards. We **strongly recommend residents to have their wells tested for these pesticides** and encourage home owners to submit their results to the Stamford Department of Health laboratory.

Initial ongoing studies have not uncovered a definitive source of contamination. Therefore, at this time, the cost of the testing is the responsibility of the individual homeowner. In order to minimize the cost of testing, the City of Stamford has arranged a special discount rate for residents with Environmental Analysis Corporation of New Canaan. Please see the procedural guidance below.

The City of Stamford follows and recommends the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards for testing well water as described in EPA Method 505 for pesticides and EPA Method 524.2 for Volatile Organic Compounds. If your well water exceeds the State's "action level" for a pesticide, you should refrain from using the water until you install a granular activated carbon (GAC) filtration system. The State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Department of Public Health find GAC treatment systems highly effective in removing these pesticides and other potentially harmful or undesirable natural or manmade substances, and once properly installed, and appropriately monitored and maintained, are an effective long-term solution to treat the water quality. If you would like more detailed information on GAC filters, please visit the following website: www.ct.gov/dep/gacfilter.

Recommended Test Procedure:

1. You can contact Environmental Analysis Corp. (203-966-5144), or AA Water Systems (203-329-9944) and arrange a test date.
2. They will advise you of the procedure. The City urges you to share your results, both positive and negative results, with the City in order to help us better understand the extent of any contamination. Please contact the Stamford Department of Health Laboratory if you have any questions or would like to submit a report (203-977-4378).
3. In the event your well tests above the action level, as defined by the State Department of Health, the City of Stamford Department of Health recommends securing a GAC system that is designed for the removal of specific contaminants detected. The laboratory providing the test results will provide specific guidelines for filtration systems. Businesses in the area sell and install water filtration systems. For more information on the GAC filters, please visit the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection's website (www.ct.gov/dep/gacfilter) or call CT DEP (860-424-3351).

Due to unconfirmed reports of wells testing positive for chlordane and/or dieldrin outside the original cluster area, and a review of an environmental investigation report of the Scofieldtown Park area, The City of Stamford Department of Health with the guidance of the Connecticut Department of Health and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Health, will be implementing a residential well sampling program for some homes in Stamford. We will not be able to sample the over 5,000 wells in North Stamford. We are working with experts to develop the protocol for this testing program at this time. In addition to this program, the City of Stamford is engaging experts to conduct a review of the 2010 environmental investigation report of Scofield Park area and to perform an investigation of the hydrogeology of the original impacted area.

If you have specific questions about testing or test results, please call the Stamford Department of Health Laboratory (203-977-4378). As additional public health issues develop, we will continue to advise you either directly or through our website. We at the Stamford Department of Health will continue to advocate for the needs of our community and pledge to work very closely with the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection to assure the safety and well being of all residents of Stamford.

Sincerely,

Anne Fountain, MPH
Interim Director of Health & Social Services

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