



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

FACT SHEET

Beaver Dam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Perfluorinated Compound Sampling Update

January 2017

Where to Find Information:

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed:

NYSDEC, Central Office
Division of Environmental Remediation
Attn: Sarah Saucier
625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7017
Call in advance: (518) 402-9675

Who to Contact:

Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project-Related Questions:
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Project-Related Public Health Questions:

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Albany, NY 12237
(518) 402-7860
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For additional information on the New York State Superfund and Petroleum Remediation Programs, visit:

www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html

Status Update

Informational Public Meeting

Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 7:00 PM
Washingtonville Middle School Auditorium
38 West Main Street
Washingtonville, New York 10992

The public is invited to an informational public meeting to discuss the status of sampling activities conducted within the Beaver Dam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District.

Introduction

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is holding an informational meeting to provide an update on sampling activities conducted to date within the Beaver Dam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District. New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) personnel will also be present at the meeting.

Perfluorinated compounds (PFCs), specifically perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), have been detected in the surface water of Beaver Dam Lake and its tributaries, which is part of the Beaver Dam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District. Beaver Dam Lake surface water is not used as a source of drinking water. The PFCs have been determined to originate from an area in the western part of Stewart International Airport, where firefighting foam was used to extinguish a major aircraft fire in 1996.

The Beaver Dam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District encompasses almost 800 homes, approximately 650 of which utilize private groundwater wells for their drinking water. The remaining approximately 150 homes receive their drinking water from the Beaver Dam Lake Water Corporation Public Water Supply, which also uses groundwater wells. PFOA and PFOS were not detected in samples collected from the Beaver Dam Lake Water Corporation's public supply wells. While the surface water is not used for drinking, private wells, with a focus on those closest to the Lake, were sampled for PFCs – to see if those wells could be in communication with Lake water. Most of the private wells in the Beaver Dam Lake area that were sampled by NYSDOH were non-detect for PFOA and PFOS. Where PFOA and PFOS were detected in private well samples, they occurred at levels well below the USEPA Health Advisory Level of 70 parts per trillion in all but one location, which is not used for drinking.

Locations where PFCs were detected have been offered bottled water, and alternate water options, point of entry treatment systems, and/or public water connections are being considered.

Please see the map on Figure 1 for the Beaver Dam Lake District location.

Background and Project Status

Historically, PFCs, including PFOS and PFOA, have been used in firefighting foams. Firefighting foams were used at Stewart International Airport to extinguish aircraft fires and for training purposes. It was noted that some of these areas of the airport drain to tributaries of Beaver Dam Lake, as a result NYSDEC collected water samples to evaluate whether PFCs were potentially impacting the Beaver Dam Lake watershed. Activities conducted to date are described below.

- On June 30, 2016 NYSDOH collected water samples from the three wells belonging to the Beaver Dam Lake Water Corporation. PFOA and PFOS were not detected in any of the wells.
- On June 30, 2016, NYSDEC collected surface water samples at four locations within the Beaver Dam Lake Watershed. Concentrations of PFOS and PFOA detected in tributaries upstream of Beaver Dam Lake were slightly above the EPA Health Advisory Level. However, these surface waters are not used as a source of drinking water.
- On November 8, 2016 additional surface water samples were collected in the Beaver Dam Lake watershed to further investigate the extent of impact. Samples were collected from the main tributary stream between the airport and the lake, Beaver Dam Lake, the outlet stream from the lake below the dam, and from Moodna Creek. Concentrations of PFOA and PFOS found in Beaver Dam Lake, the outlet stream and Moodna Creek were below the USEPA Health Advisory levels for human consumption in drinking water. As stated above, these surface waters are not used as a source of drinking water.
- NYSDOH is testing individual private wells within the Beaver Dam Lake community as determined necessary.

Potential Exposure

Although the levels of PFOA and PFOS found upstream of Beaver Dam Lake are above the EPA lifetime drinking water advisory level, this surface water is not used as a source of drinking water. Surface water samples collected from Beaver Dam Lake and tributaries downstream are below the USEPA Health Advisory levels for human consumption in drinking water. There are no concerns with people using Beaver Dam Lake or its tributaries for recreational purposes (e.g., swimming, boating, etc.). Fish tissue samples were collected from Beaver Dam Lake by the NYSDEC and are being analyzed.

The majority of wells sampled in the Beaver Dam Lake area are non-detect for PFOA and PFOS. In the remaining locations, detections in drinking water are well below the USEPA Health Advisory levels for human consumption. One sample of non-drinking water was found to be above the advisory level, and was re-sampled.

Residents may contact the NYSDOH to determine if their well is in an affected area or other area designated for evaluation, and request to have their well water tested free of charge by contacting NYSDOH at 518-402-7880. Please note that sample locations are determined based on current data and not all wells may need to be sampled.

Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. DEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>. It's quick, it's free, and it will help keep you *better informed*.

As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select. **Note:** Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.



Site Map

Beaver Dam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District
Orange County, NY



----- Approximate boundary of Beaver Dam Lake District