

22 July 2016

Tim Scoggins
Shaftsbury Selectboard Chair

My Fellow Citizens of Shaftsbury,

As you may have heard by now, one of the groundwater monitoring wells at the landfill has tested positive for the chemical PFOA, a suspected carcinogen. The State has for some months been aggressively seeking to identify water wells containing this particular chemical. At this time they are calling the Town of Shaftsbury “the responsible party” for dealing with the effects of contamination. The Town is cooperating fully with State orders regarding this matter. Our primary concern is for the health and well-being of our citizens.

The State has identified approximately 26 wells within a quarter of a mile of the landfill for testing for PFOA. It will take a couple of weeks to gather the samples and receive the test results. Residents with wells in this area are being notified. If they wish, these residents can obtain bottled water at Cole Hall while we await test results. Water can be obtained during normal Town business hours from 7 am to 3 pm Monday through Friday, and also this Saturday, July 23, from 8 am to 1 pm.

Residents near the landfill may be comforted to know that the levels of PFOA detected so far in the one well are quite low. Vermont’s acceptable level for PFOA in drinking water is 20 parts per trillion (ppt). The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set the federal standard at 70 ppt. The levels detected at the landfill from two samples are 22 ppt and 25 ppt . It is possible, and it is our hope, that unacceptable levels of PFOA will not be found in surrounding wells.

There will be a special meeting of the Shaftsbury Selectboard on Monday July 25 at 6:30 pm at Cole Hall. The meeting will be attended by several State officials who will be able to address citizen concerns. I invite everyone to attend; especially those living close to the landfill.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me or our town administrator David Kiernan:

Tim Scoggins
sbtim@jacksonresources.com
530 330 5262

David Kiernan
administrator@shaftsburyvt.gov
802 442 4038 x3

Sincerely,

Tim Scoggins
Shaftsbury Selectboard Chair