City of Afton

Natural Resources and Groundwater Committee (NRGC)

Agenda
Tuesday, January 9, 2018
5:00 PM

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Agenda

4. Approval of Minutes

   A. Meeting Minutes from the December 5, 2017 NRGC meeting

5. Business

   A. Reappointment of Committee Members and Review Term Limits for Annie Perkins and Bake Baker and Update Member Contact Information.
   B. Election of Officers
   C. Upgrade of the NRGC Manual
   D. Review Afton Solid Waste Plan for Edits and Comments
   E. Well Testing Update
   F. Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Update Information and Maps Regarding Sampling for PFC's and Tracking the Overall PFC Plume
   G. Natural Resources and Groundwater Management Organizations Update; and Committee Assignments
   H. Bee Action – Neonics and Other Chemicals are Killing Bees. Appoint a Subcommittee to Study and Prepare a Report
   I. Update on CC & PC Business – Council Member Palmquist
   J. Third Year Summary – 2017

6. Adjourn

Natural Resources and Groundwater Committee (NRGC)

Unapproved minutes
Tuesday, December 5, 2017
5:00 PM

1. **Meeting called to order** at 5:05

2. **Roll Call**
Present were Perry Eggers, Mark Have, Keith Hoffman Jack Kollmer, Annie Perkins and Susan Winsor.
Bake Baker was absent.

3. **Approval of Agenda**
Jack suggested discussing committee terms expiring instead of Palmquist CC update (he had a conflict). Keith suggested that we add discussion of meeting frequency. Perry moved to approve and Annie seconded.

4. **Approval of Minutes**
November 2017 minutes had one error- Mark Have was not present to second adjourning. Perry moved to accept the change and Keith seconded accepted as amended.

5. **Business**

A. NRGC expiring terms
Council Member Palmquist was absent. Instead, these decisions were made about committee member terms going forward:
Jack and Keith: 1 year terms
Annie has 1 more year left of her existing term
Susan resigned due to time constraints and retirement distractions
Mark and Perry: 2 year terms
Bake has two more years of his existing term
NRGC now has two empty seats
Annie P is interested in being the PC liaison
A quorum of the committee is four members.

5B. Well Testing Update by Keith:
November well testing had 50 participants, another increase.
Next spring, Mark will bring in MN Dept of Ag and its portable nitrate analyzer for on-site testing
Do we want to test for something beyond nitrates?
*Plastic pieces are turning up in municipal systems, Mark says.
*Test for 3M chemical appearing in Cottage Grove, Lake Elmo and West Lakeland wells. Susan distributed related notes from a MN Dept of Health March 2017 Water Consortium meeting reporting that PFCs are unexpectedly moving East through underground formations. Perhaps test Afton wells just adjacent to these areas such as along highway 94 because testing is expensive.

We also discussed Woodbury aquifer drawdown. The summer was wetter than normal, Mark says, so levels are adequate for now as a result.
Because Woodbury pumps 2,000 gal. per minute, this merits ongoing scrutiny, the committee agreed. That is why Afton had Woodbury install observation wells, Jack says.

5C. Review and Comment on the resiliency-related materials provided by Annie Perkins: She will continue to collaborate and communicate with Afton residents already working on Afton sustainability additions to the Comp Plan.

5D. Upgrade the NRGC Manual--Suggestions:
Jack suggests adding the Lower St. Croix Riverway Best Practices and the Washington County Health Department documents/newsletter on Septic Systems and Well Management entitled *Minnesota Ag Connections.* He will follow up with Mayor and Staff for that to be done.
Susan suggested using Dropbox type technology to avoid printing stuff out-(follow up with Ron Moorse said we should be able to use space on City website.)

5E. Natural Resources and Groundwater Management Organizations Update
Annie Perkins, Perry Eggers and Jack Kollmer- no reports
Mark/Valley Branch Watershed: Daniel Wamstad is subdividing his property (near Valley Creek and Manning intersection, East side) and collaborating with VBW and other related groups to make sure it's done well.
Susan: reminded others that Washington Soil and Water Conservation District Christmas party is coming up, and a good chance to renew ties since Susan is leaving committee. Annie is attending the party anyway.
Committee will reassign organization coverage.

5F. Does NRGC need to meet monthly? Most of the committee feels that yes we do, given attendance/quorum challenges and importance of subject matter. Discussed using remote technology such as Skype for people out of town to attend remotely. Annie, Mark and Keith will miss the next two NRGC meetings.

6. Adjourned at 6:20. Perry motioned to adjourn, Annie seconded.

5.a

Jack Kollmer

From: Ron Moorse <rmoorse@ci.afton.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:52 PM
To: Jack Kollmer
Subject: RE: NRGC Reappointments for 2018 and Beyond

Jack,
Thinking about the NRGC's January meeting date...it is Tuesday, January 2. Are your members going to be available to meet on January 2nd?
Thanks,
Ron

From: Jack Kollmer [mailto:jack.kollmer@klmengineering.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 1:20 PM
To: Ron Moorse <rmoorse@ci.afton.mn.us>
Subject: NRGC Reappointments for 2018 and Beyond

Ron,
At the December NRGC meeting we discussed reappointments to the committee and the following is the results of that discussion:

Jack Kollmer, volunteers for a 3-year term.
Perry Eggers volunteers for a 1-year term.
Keith Hoffman volunteers for a 2-year term.
Mark Have volunteers for a 2-year term.

Susan Winsor is retiring from the committee. Annie Perkins and Bake Baker are current members that do not have appointment letters from the City Council.

We do not have end-of-term information for Annie Perkins or Bake Baker? Can you look up the start and term ends for Annie and Bake? Can I get copies of the appointment letters for our records on Annie and Bake? We also request that you continue to advertise for new committee members in the City Newsletter; and send copies of the Application for the NRGC to all current NRGC members for their use in recruiting new members for the NRGC.

In January we will hold an election of officers for 2018 at that meeting.

We have one more request and that is a separate 3-ring binders for the NRGC Reference Materials and a revised NRGC Contact list with names, phone numbers, email and mailing address.

Thank you for your assistance.

Regards,
Jack Kollmer, NRGC Chairman

Jack Kollmer

From: Ron Moorse <rmoorse@ci.afton.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2017 12:37 PM
To: Jack Kollmer
Subject: RE: January 2 NRGC meeting

Jack,
The Council did make the reappointments per your email. I will check on the information re: Annje and Bake tomorrow.
Ron

From: Jack Kollmer [mailto:jack.kollmer@klmengineering.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2017 12:25 PM
To: Ron Moorse <rmoorse@ci.afton.mn.us>
Subject: RE: January 2 NRGC meeting

Ron,
We need to set-up the meeting for January 9, 2018.

Did the CC act on reappointments to the NRGC? Do you have the information I requested on Annie Perkins and Bake Baker? I will need ASAP the reappointments and etc to plan the January NRGC meeting. I am drafting an Agenda but need that information.

Regards,
JK

From: Ron Moorse [mailto:rmoorse@ci.afton.mn.us]
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 9:22 AM
To: Jack Kollmer <jack.kollmer@klmengineering.com>
Subject: January 2 NRGC meeting

Jack,
Do you think the NRGC members would want to change the date of the January NRGC meeting from January 2 to January 9? Or are they all available on the 2nd?
Thanks,
Ron

Ron Moorse

From: Ron Moorse
Sent: Wednesday, January 03, 2018 2:18 PM
To: 'jack.kollmer@klmengineering.com'
Subject: NRGC term limits

Jack,
Annie Perkins was appointed to a three year term that expires on December 31, 2018.
Bake Baker was initially appointed to fill an unexpired term that expired on December 31, 2017. I will contact Bake regarding serving another term. If he is interested in serving another term, he can continue to serve on the Committee in the interim until the Council takes action to reappoint him at the January 16 Council meeting.
Ron

5. c

LOWER ST. CROIX RIVERWAY

BEST PRACTICES FOR ZONING APPLICATIONS

A clear and orderly process to increase consistency and transparency of land-use applications and decisions in the Lower St. Croix Riverway District.

This resource is most useful for landowners or representatives for landowners thinking about making changes to their property. It is a tool for landowners, developers, realtors, and local governments to collaborate and communicate early on development projects in the St. Croix Riverway. Work with your local zoning administrator and relevant local, state, and federal agencies to learn more about your property and best practices for zoning applications in the Riverway. This will save everyone time and money, and will help preserve the St. Croix River's wild and scenic characteristics.

Visit stcroixriverassociation.org to learn more about St. Croix Riverway history, significance, protections, and to view the *Landowner's Guide to the Lower St. Croix Riverway*.

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This resource was created by the St. Croix River Association with funding from the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR).

PRE-APPLICATION PROCESS

It is important to have a pre-application meeting for all projects in the St. Croix Riverway to discuss ideas, minimizing impact, and alternatives, if necessary. The Lower St. Croix River is protected through building restrictions in local ordinances that prioritize water quality and natural habitat. It is important that all projects align with the intent of these protections to preserve and improve the Riverway for landowners and visitors alike. Please reference the Landowner's Guide to the Lower St. Croix Riverway and your local ordinances to learn more about Riverway regulations.

CONTACT ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Before investing in plans for a project, landowners and/or their representatives should contact the zoning administrator to share ideas and learn about any restrictions on the property.

PRE-APPLICATION MEETING AND SITE VISIT

Development projects should go through a clear and orderly process, starting with a pre-application meeting and site visit to better understand the project idea and to discuss alternatives, if necessary. It is important to provide a design sketch at the pre-application meeting *before* investing in a formal site plan. Involved parties will communicate concerns and suggestions at this time. Work with the zoning administrator to minimize the impact of a project and, if possible, eliminate the need for a variance or conditional use permit.

BEGIN APPLICATIONS

Zoning applications require approval from the local government. It is important to invest in quality information to save time and money on revisions. An incomplete application will not be accepted.

PRE-APPLICATION WORKSHEET

Fill out this document to the best of your ability before your pre-application meeting. Work with your zoning administrator and other agencies to fill out the questions you cannot answer. The purpose of this worksheet is to make sure you understand all of the restrictions on your property before investing time and money in your project, and to share your project idea with your zoning administrator. Be flexible with your ideas, they may need to change to fit the intent of the Riverway protections and local ordinances.

Name_____

- Status
  - ☐ Owner
  - ☐ Prospective buyer
  - ☐ Agent
  - ☐ Other:_____

Who is the owner of the property?

- Name:_____
- Address of property in consideration:

  _____

  _____
- Parcel ID Number_____
- Phone: _____
- Email: _____

Visit the county website's public property search or contact the county records department to learn more about the property.

In accordance with St. Croix Riverway regulations, the property is zoned:

- ☐ Rural
- ☐ Urban
- ☐ Urban with public sewer and water
- Other overlay zoning rules that may apply:
  - ☐ _____
  - ☐ _____
  - ☐ _____

Look at your local zoning map (if not available online, ask your zoning administrator for a copy) to learn how your property is zoned. Take into account local zoning and overlay zoning (shoreland, Riverway, historic, etc.). Ask your zoning administrator how your local zoning corresponds with Riverway zoning.

How many acres is your property?

Are there any easements on your property?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, explain:

_____

_____

_____

An easement is a part of your property that is managed by another entity. For example, a city might have a public utility easement on your land for power, water, and sewer lines, or, the National Park Service might have a scenic easement on your property to preserve habitat along the river corridor. Ask your zoning administrator and collaborating agencies about easements on your property.

What is your remodel/rebuild idea?

- ☐ A new structure on the property
  - ☐ Principal structure
  - ☐ Accessory structure
- ☐ Updating within the current footprint
- ☐ Extending the current footprint
- ☐ Adding another story to the existing structure
- ☐ Floodproofing or elevating on fill
- ☐ Other_____
- ☐ Other_____

Explain what you would like to do on your property:

_____

_____

_____

Do you have a recent survey of your property with elevations?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Visit your city or county to find the most recent survey of your property. You will most likely need to survey your property before making changes to your land.

Do you have a substandard lot?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, explain:

_____

_____

_____

Substandard lots are parcels that do not adhere to current zoning ordinances. In many cases, substandard lots or substandard structures were grandfathered in when new rules took place. It may be more difficult to make changes to your property if you have a substandard or structure. Work closely with your zoning administrator to learn about your options!

Are there any substandard structures on your property? If you do not know, please ask your local zoning administrator.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, explain:

_____

_____

_____

Have you started working with a builder or architect yet on the concept design?

- ☐ Yes
  - Name_____
  - Company_____
  - Phone_____
  - Email_____
- ☐ No

If you live in the St. Croix Riverway, share information about the Riverway regulations with your architect or builder. Understanding the building restrictions along the river will save you time and money when making plans for your property. Visit www.stcroixriverassociation.org for more information about the Lower St. Croix Riverway, including the Landowner's Guide to the Lower St. Croix Riverway and local, state, and federal contact information.

Remember to wait until *after* your pre-application meeting and site visit to invest in plans for your property. This will save you time and money!

Pre-application Meeting Contacts and Summary

Fill this worksheet out at your pre-application meeting to document who is there, how to contact them, and what they suggest to minimize the impact of your project. Work with these stakeholders to eliminate the need for a variance or CUP, if possible. Summarize what you need to do to move forward with your project idea.

☐ **City/County Staff**

- ☐ Zoning Administrator Name_____ Contact_____
- ☐ Planner Name_____ Contact_____
- ☐ Engineer Name_____ Contact_____
- ☐ Building Inspector Name_____ Contact_____
- ☐ Tree Consultant Name_____ Contact_____
- ☐ _____ Name_____ Contact_____

Comments on the project idea:

_____

_____

_____

_____

☐ **Watershed Districts or Watershed Management Organizations**

Name_____Contact_____

- o Any project undertaking grading, filling, or other land alteration activities that involve the movement of 100 cubic yards of earth or removal of vegetation on greater than 10,000 square feet of land.
- o All projects that create or fully reconstructs 6,000 square feet or more impervious surface.
- o All major subdivisions or minor subdivisions that are part of a common plan of development.
- o Any project grading with wetland impacts, within public waters, or within buffers.
- o Any project with grading within 40-feet of the bluff line.
- o Any project in the St. Croix Riverway that requires a building permit and adds 500 square feet or greater of additional impervious surface.
- o Any project requiring a variance from local impervious surface zoning requirements. Development projects that impact 2 or more member communities.

Comments on the project idea:

_____

_____

_____

_____

☐ **The Department of Natural Resources**

Name_____Contact_____

- o Shoreland
- o Wetland
- o Floodplain
- o Riverway in state managed zone
- o Bluff
- o Vegetation

Comments on the project idea:

_____

_____

_____

_____

☐ **The National Park Service**

Name_____Contact_____

- Scenic easements (from Stillwater Township North)
- Riverway in federally managed zone
- Vegetative/timber cutting in federally managed zone
- Subdivisions in federally managed zone

Comments on the project idea:

_____

_____

_____

_____

☐ **The Army Corps of Engineers**

Name_____Contact_____

- Docks and levees
- Wetlands

Comments on the project idea:

_____

_____

_____

_____

☐ **Other:**

Name_____Contact_____

Comments on the project idea:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Overall summary of pre-application meeting:

What do you need to change about your plans? What applications are necessary for your project?

_____

_____

_____

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APPLICATIONS THAT REQUIRE APPROVAL

LOCAL APPLICATIONS MAY VARY. OTHER APPLICATIONS MAY BE REQUIRED.

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	AUTHORITY
GRADING PERMIT	Needed when making changes to the earth's topography.	Local Government
EROSION CONTROL PLAN	Included in grading permit. Shows how the project will prevent or control wind or water erosion during construction.	Local Government
WATERSHED REVIEW	Fill out separately through the watershed management organization (WMO). The WMO will review the project plans and provide recommendations.	Local Watershed Management Organization (WMO)
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE SCENIC EASEMENT REVIEW	Verify separately through the National Park Service (NPS). The NPS will review project plans, provide recommendations, and approve or deny a project.	National Park Service (NPS)
WELL OR BORING LICENSE	For drilling, constructing, and repairing wells. For sealing wells, installing pumps and pumping equipment, excavating, drilling, repairing, and sealing elevator borings. Construction, repair, and sealing environmental bore holes. Construction, repair, and sealing bored geothermal heat exchangers.	State Department of Health
SEPTIC PERMIT	For installing new septic tanks and/or soil treatment areas (drain fields, at-grades and mounds). All repair or modification of existing systems and components. Changes in the facility served by the system may trigger a permit.	County Government

APPLICATIONS THAT REQUIRE APPROVAL, CONT.

OTHER APPLICATIONS MAY BE REQUIRED

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	AUTHORITY
ZONING APPLICATION	For construction projects that deviate from local zoning ordinances.	Local Government
FLOODPLAIN VARIANCE OR CUP	For construction projects in the floodplain or floodway, and projects that require floodproofing.	Local Government
VARIANCE APPLICATION	If there is a practical difficulty or hardship on the property, the applicant may request a variance to a local ordinance.	Local Government
RIVERWAY VARIANCE	There are unique building restrictions in the Riverway overlay zone bordering the St.Croix River.	Local Government
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (CUP)	A conditional use permit grants a use when the standards have been met by the applicant. The use is allowed by permit only if special concerns are addressed as set forth in the zoning ordinance.	Local Government
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLICANCE	For projects that meet all zoning requirements.	Local Government
OTHER_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	
OTHER_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	

APPLICATION PROCESS

SUBMIT APPLICATION

Applicant submits zoning application(s) to local unit of government.

Application completeness: Incomplete applications or submittals that do not meet application standards will be returned.

Pay fees and escrow payment: This money will be used for engineers, planners, legal review, and other work during the application review process. Money in escrow is held until all appropriate review requirements are met. Applicants are responsible for all expenses that exceed the escrow amount.

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

The review process may vary based on local government and type of application. Once all necessary reviews are complete, the application will go to the planning commission and/or the local governing body for final approval.

Public Hearing: Local officials will review zoning applications at a public hearing. Applicants and other interested parties may argue their case at this time.

Application Approval or Denial: If approved, the project may have required conditions and/or mitigations. If denied, the landowner cannot implement the project or may choose to appeal the decision.

APPLY FOR DEVELOPMENT-RELATED PERMITS

If approved, applicants will need to apply for permits to implement the project. If expenses have exceeded escrow amount those fees must be paid before starting the building process.

PLANNING AND ZONING APPLICATIONS TIMELINE

Work with the zoning administrator to minimize the impact of your project before submitting an application. Whenever possible, make changes to eliminate the need for variances and/or CUPS. If the zoning administrator determines that a planning and zoning application is required, submit the application form, fee, and supplemental application materials to the local unit of government. Typically, the application review and approval process takes approximately three months. Please keep in mind that additional information and time may be necessary for larger scale projects and for properties located in the floodplain, shoreland, or St. Croix Riverway districts.

Before the public hearing

- Applicant submits abstractor's certificate showing names and addresses of all property owners within 500 ft. of the affected property.
- The local Zoning Administrator sends notice and copies of the applicant's information to all involved agencies/organizations.
- Notice of the purpose, time, and place of the public hearing is
    - mailed to all property owners listed in division.
    - is published in the official newspaper of the city.

After the public hearing

- Applicants can appeal the decision.
- Local government sends application and decision to
    - The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
    - The National Park Service (for scenic easements)
    - The County

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for zoning applications in the St. Croix Riverway may vary by project and local government.

- ☐ Location of floodway and floodplain
- ☐ Adjoining water-oriented uses
- ☐ Information regarding septic system including type, size, and location
- ☐ Provide description of property use
- ☐ Surveyed plat including:
  - Ordinary High Water Mark
  - Blufflines
  - Property location
  - Boundaries
  - Existing and proposed structures with elevations
  - Setbacks
  - Dimensions
  - Elevations
  - Utility and Roadway Corridors
  - Summary of existing vs. proposed impervious surface
- ☐ Drawing showing building elevations
- ☐ Location of existing and proposed alterations of vegetation and topography
- ☐ Most recent aerial view of property with property lines
- ☐ Location of & information for water supply system
- ☐ Pictures of the property as viewed from the river
- ☐ Any vegetation alterations
- ☐ National Park Service Approval
- ☐ Watershed Approval
- ☐ Additional materials requested by the local government:
  - ○ _____
  - ○ _____
  - ○ _____

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	AUTHORITY
BUILDING PERMIT	Allows new construction, or adding onto pre-existing structures, and in some cases for major renovations.	Local Government
MECHANICAL PERMIT/HVAC	Allows the installation or replacement of a furnace, air conditioner, fireplace, wood stove, HRV unit, alteration or repair of gas piping between the meter and an appliance or other equipment, including all liquefied petroleum gas piping.	Local Government
ELECTRICAL PERMIT	Allows the installation or alteration any permanent wiring or electrical device. Allows additional wiring and installation of an electrical outlet, light fixture, a receptacle for a garage-door opener, or conversion from fuse box to circuit breakers.	State: MN State Electrical
PLUMBING	Allows the replacement of water heaters and underground piping, alterations of piping inside a wall or ceiling, or beneath a floor, and for plumbing in all new installations. Emergency repair, alteration, or replacement of freeze-damaged or leaking concealed piping.	MN State Department of Labor and Industry
DEMOLITION PERMIT	Allows a building to be raised or removed in its entirety.	Local Government
VEGETATIVE CUTTING PERMIT	Cutting down trees larger than 4 inches in width in the Riverway district.	Local Government
UTILITY/RIGHT OF WAY PERMIT	Allows construction or excavation in the City right of way. Some of the activities permitted are driveways, curbs, sidewalks, pipe installation, ditch excavation, cable installation, or any construction in the right of way.	Depends on who owns the right of way

BUILDING PROCESS

START PROJECT

The landowner can begin construction once zoning applications are approved and necessary building permits are acquired.

DEVELOPMENT INSPECTIONS

The building inspector will check in on the project during construction to ensure all requirements and conditions are being met.

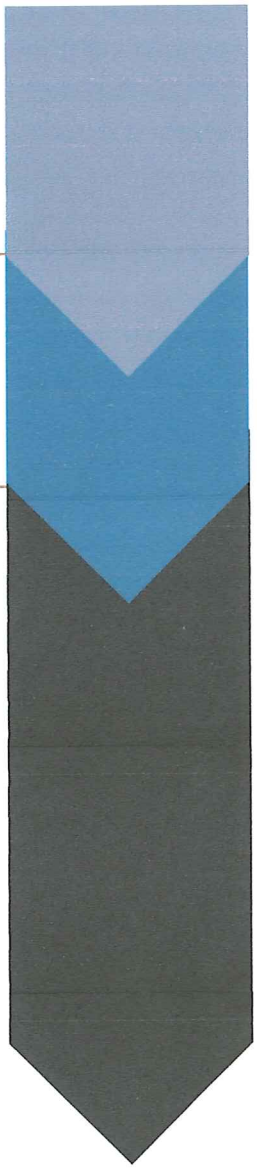
FINISH PROJECT

Submit As-built Survey and Pictures: Applicants submit as-built surveys and pictures to document the completed project with the local government.

Post-project inspection: The building official will inspect the project when construction is complete.

Certificate of Occupancy: Certifies a building's compliance with applicable building codes and other laws, and indicating it to be in a condition suitable for occupancy.

Project documentation requirements vary by project.



5.d

Jack Kollmer

From: Julie Yoho (City Clerk) <jyoho@ci.afton.mn.us>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 11:32 AM
To: rmb2702@gmail.com; sally@littlefootfarm.com; mnelson414@hotmail.com; bjronningen@yahoo.com; kkopitzke@earthlink.net; scott@scottpatten.com; ljlabsdance@gmail.com; jlangan.pol@dyn-eng.com; keithandjudy@centurylink.net; Jack Kollmer; bkingegg@gmail.com; markhave@q.com; Susanwinsor@mac.com; st.croixannie@gmail.com; bbafton@gmail.com
Cc: ward2; ward1; Ron Moorse
Subject: FW: Solid Waste Plan
Attachments: Afton Solid Waste Plan bjr edits.docx

Planning Commission & NRGC,
See the attached edited Solid Waste section of the Comprehensive Plan. Let me know any additional comments / edits.

Thanks,

Julie

From: Ron Moorse
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 9:11 AM
To: Julie Yoho (City Clerk) <jyoho@ci.afton.mn.us>
Subject: FW: Solid Waste Plan

Julie,
Please circulate to the PC members for their comments.
Thanks,
Ron

From: Barbara Ronningen [mailto:bjronningen@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 8:43 AM
To: Ron Moorse <rmoorse@ci.afton.mn.us>; Julie Yoho (City Clerk) <jyoho@ci.afton.mn.us>
Subject: Solid Waste Plan

Attached is my rewrite of this piece. Please circulate to PC members for their comments.

Thanks.

BJR

PS - the first paragraph does not show the edits. Word kept closing on me and I didn't get restart tracking when I rewrote. I think it's fairly clear what I did.

PPS - Ron, I'll bring the copies from Perry Egger today. Sorry for the delay.

SOLID WASTE PLAN
Ver 9/18/17

Soils in Afton are of a fragile nature with a highly pervious underlying geological substrate. In order to protect the groundwater, the City of Afton does not have and does not want a solid waste disposal site. The City contracts with trash haulers to collect both solid waste and recycling on a regular schedule. The City prohibits burning or dumping of trash or garbage at any time.

The Afton Comprehensive Plan includes the following waste management options as mandatory or voluntary for both residential and business entities.

SOLID WASTE GOALS and POLICY

The City of Afton establishes the following solid waste goals:

1. Manage waste in a manner that will protect the environment and public health

~~2. Resource conservation and recovery.~~

2. Manage waste to minimize land filling and incineration ~~by e~~
   a. Emphasiz~~e~~~~ing~~ less waste generation ~~and i~~
   ~~4.~~b. Increase waste reuse (composting) and source separating of recyclable materials.

~~5. Explore avenues to encourage residents and businesses to reduce solid waste by providing educational material for best present and future practices.~~

~~6.~~3. Routinely report to residents ~~-~~results of recycling and waste reduction with total volumes and associated cost benefits.

~~7.~~4. Educate residents and businesses by sending consistent messages about the importance and value of waste management both economically and environmentally.

~~8.~~5. Evaluate the value and relative success of mandatory or ~~volunteer~~ voluntary participation.

The City of Afton establishes the following solid waste policy

1. Waste reduction and reuse of resources
2. Waste separation and recycling
3. Promote resource conservation and recovery
~~3.~~4. Promote composting of yard waste and food waste
~~4.~~5. Provide for trash hauling and recycling
~~5.~~6. Enforcement of illegal burning or dumping of trash
7. Routinely report to residents results of recycling and waste reduction efforts with total volumes and associated cost benefits
8. Explore avenues to encourage residents and businesses to reduce solid waste by providing educational material for best present and future practices.
~~6.~~

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5.F

Jack Kollmer

From:	Ron Moorse <rmoorse@ci.afton.mn.us>
Sent:	Thursday, December 07, 2017 11:53 AM
To:	mayor; Joe Richter; ward1; ward3; Randy
Cc:	Julie Yoho (City Clerk); Deb Meade; publicworks; rmb2702@gmail.com; sally@littlefootfarm.com; mnelson414@hotmail.com; bjronningen@yahoo.com; kkopitzke@earthlink.net; scott@scottpatten.com; ljlabsdance@gmail.com; jlangan.pol@dyn-eng.com; keithandjudy@centurylink.net; Jack Kollmer; bkingegg@gmail.com; markhave@q.com; Susanwinsor@mac.com; st.croixannie@gmail.com; bbafton@gmail.com
Subject:	FW: PFC Update
Attachments:	PFOS map_north_11-29-2017.pdf; PFOS map_south_11-29-2017.pdf; PFBA_all aquifers_11-29-2017.pdf; PFOS east metro_11-29-2017.pdf; PFOA east metro_11-29-2017.pdf; PFOA map_north_11-29-2017.pdf; PFOA map_south_11-29-2017.pdf

I am forwarding an email from the Minnesota Department of Health with updated information and maps regarding the sampling for PFC's and the tracking of the overall PFC plume.
Ron

From: Kelly, James (MDH) [mailto:james.kelly@state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, December 05, 2017 11:19 AM
To: dan.kyllo@westlakeland.govoffice2.com; dschultz6816@comcast.net; r.adams@greycloudislandtwp-mn.us; d.hoyt@greycloudislandtwp-mn.us; townclerk@westlakeland.govoffice2.com; townclerk@greycloudislandtwp-mn.us; Ron Moorse <rmoorse@ci.afton.mn.us>; jh-farrell@ci.lakeland.mn.us; Kristina Handt <KHandt@lakeelmo.org>; Stephanie Souter <Stephanie.Souter@co.washington.mn.us>; city@stpaulpark.org; nora.slawik@maplewoodmn.gov; duwayne.konewko@MaplewoodMn.gov; Shann.Finwall@maplewoodmn.gov; jwesterman@ci.woodbury.mn.us; cgridley@ci.woodbury.mn.us; keckles@ci.woodbury.mn.us; Bart Fischer <bart.fischer@ci.oakdale.mn.us>; brian.bachmeier@ci.oakdale.mn.us (brian.bachmeier@ci.oakdale.mn.us) <brian.bachmeier@ci.oakdale.mn.us>; jlevitt@cottage-grove.org; Charlene Stevens <cstevens@cottage-grove.org>; Lowell.Johnson@co.washington.mn.us (Lowell.Johnson@co.washington.mn.us) <Lowell.Johnson@co.washington.mn.us>
Cc: Yingling, Virginia (MDH) <virginia.yingling@state.mn.us>; Kadrie, Julie (MDH) <julie.kadrie@state.mn.us>; Jones, David.BW (MDH) <david.bw.jones@state.mn.us>; Robertson, Liz (MDH) <liz.robertson@state.mn.us>; Krueger, Gary (MPCA) <gary.krueger@state.mn.us>; Hogan, Tom (MDH) <tom.hogan@state.mn.us>; Martin, Lucas (MDH) <lucas.martin@state.mn.us>; Allwood, Paul (MDH) <paul.allwood@state.mn.us>; Sarafolean, Patrick (MDH) <patrick.sarafolean@state.mn.us>
Subject: PFC Update

Colleagues,
On behalf of our staff hydrologist, Ginny Yingling, who is out of the office this week I am sending the attached maps to our local partners who are following the progress of PFC sampling and the tracking of the overall PFC plume. These updates usually come with a summary of any new private well advisories issued; that will come next week when Ginny is back in the office. We did not want to delay sending out new maps until then; we do also have a count of private wells sampled since mid-August (119 in total), by city:

Afton – 2
Cottage Grove – 35
St. Paul Park/Grey Cloud Island Township – 2
Lake Elmo – 10
Maplewood – 4

West Lakeland – 1
West Lakeland Township – 56
Woodbury – 9

A number of these may have received private well advisories – a final count will come next week. I also wanted to share the information below with you. Recent media stories about legal proceedings related to PFCs in East Metro groundwater and drinking water have understandably sparked questions and concerns.

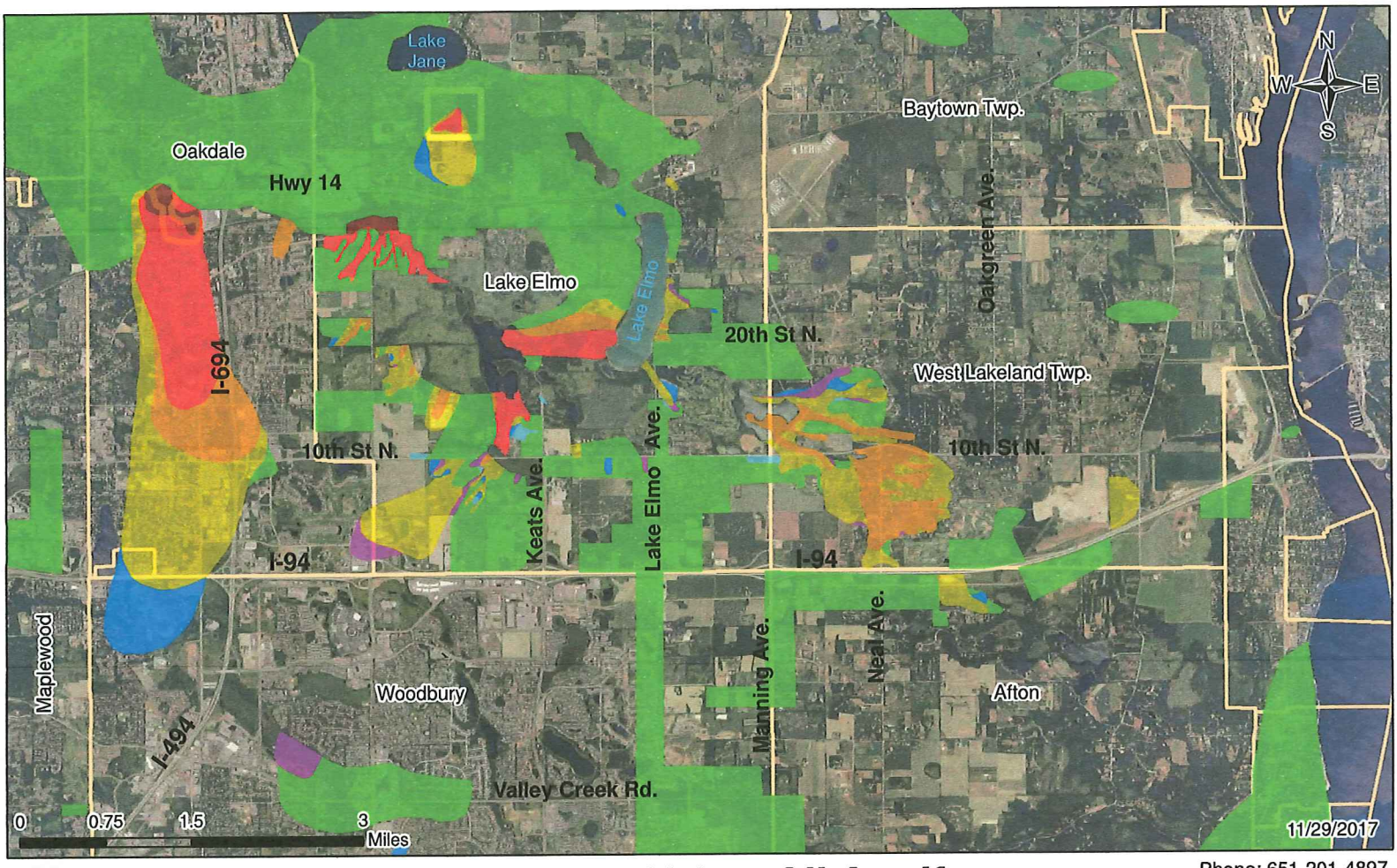
- While MDH is not a party to the legal proceedings, we have done extensive work in partnership with the affected communities to determine how best to protect the health of people in the communities.
- Based on our reviews of the best available science on PFCs, we believe the actions taken to reduce exposures to PFCs and the health-based values we established for PFCs in drinking water provide strong margins of safety to protect the public's health.
- Our current guidance was updated as recently as May to reflect newer understanding of exposure to and potential health effects of PFCs.
- The state's biomonitoring in East Metro residents has shown that the public health actions taken to date have been effective at reducing exposures through drinking water.
- MDH is conducting an epidemiological analyses of the most recent cancer and birth outcome data. As we have in the past, we will share that work with the affected communities when it becomes available. Our analyses done to date are posted on the MDH website.
- We will continue to work with our sister agencies, local partners and the public to ensure that proper actions continue to be taken to reduce exposure to PFCs in water to acceptable levels.

Thanks as always for your continued partnership in responding to this issue. Also, special recognition of our Oakdale colleagues while they deal with the water main break at I-694, under what I can only imagine are trying conditions. If there is anything you need, please let us know.

James Kelly, M.S.
Manager | Environmental Surveillance & Assessment

Minnesota Department of Health
Office: 651-201-4910 | Mobile: 651-274-8814

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

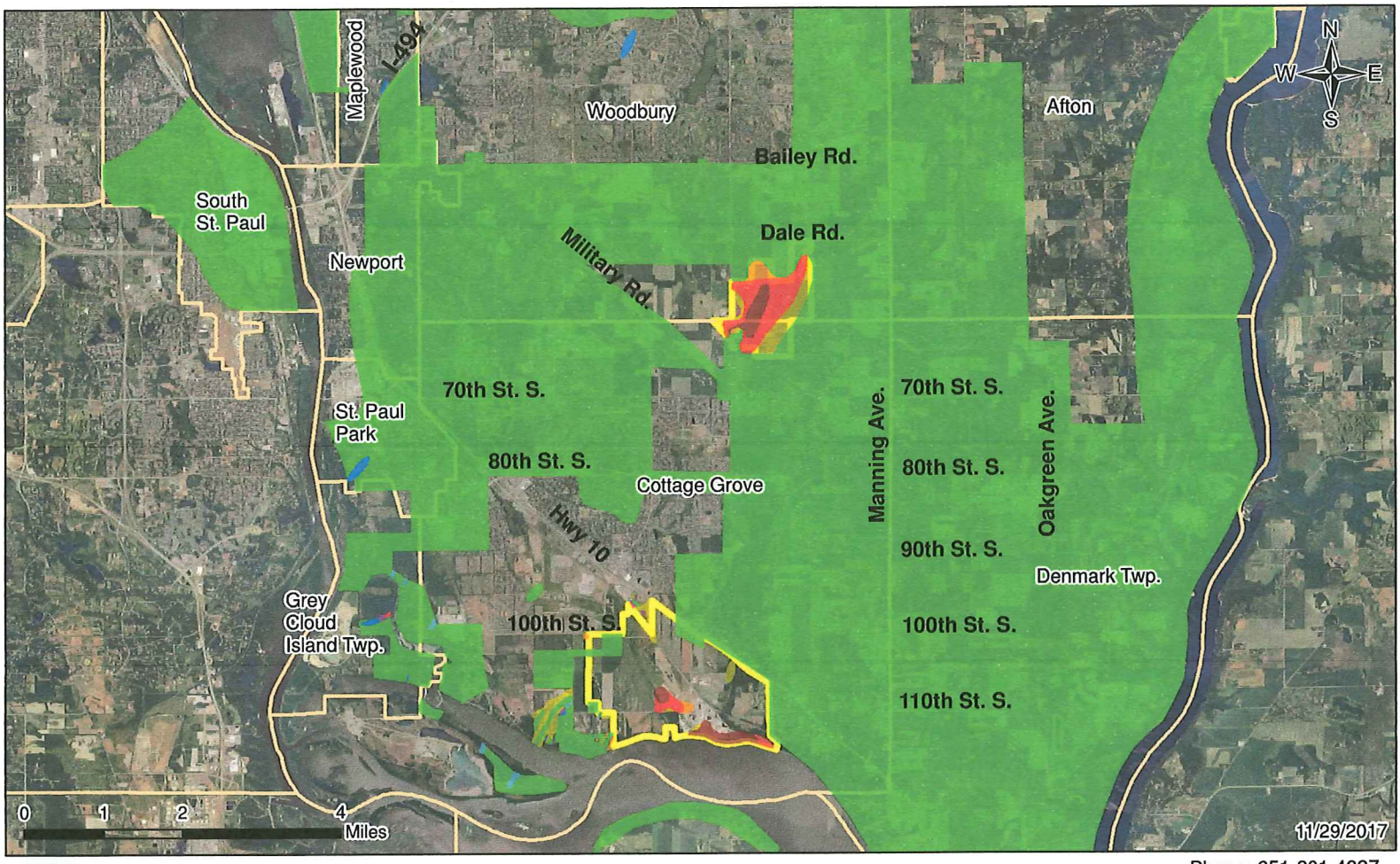
PFOS North of I-94 - All Aquifers

Phone: 651-201-4897
or 1-800-657-3908

- PFOS greater than 1.35 ppb (>50x HBV)
- PFOS 0.271-1.35ppb (10-50x HBV)
- PFOS 0.136-0.27ppb (5-10x HBV)
- PFOS 0.028-0.135ppb (1-5x HBV)
- PFOS 0.021-0.027ppb (75-100% HBV)
- PFOS 0.0136-0.02ppb (50-75% HBV)
- PFOS 0.004-0.0135ppb (<50% HBV)
- PFOS not detected

MDH Health Based Value (HBV) for PFOS is 0.027 parts per billion (ppb; or 27 parts per trillion)

Map combines data from all aquifers, actual concentrations in any area may vary; blank spaces indicate no sample data.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

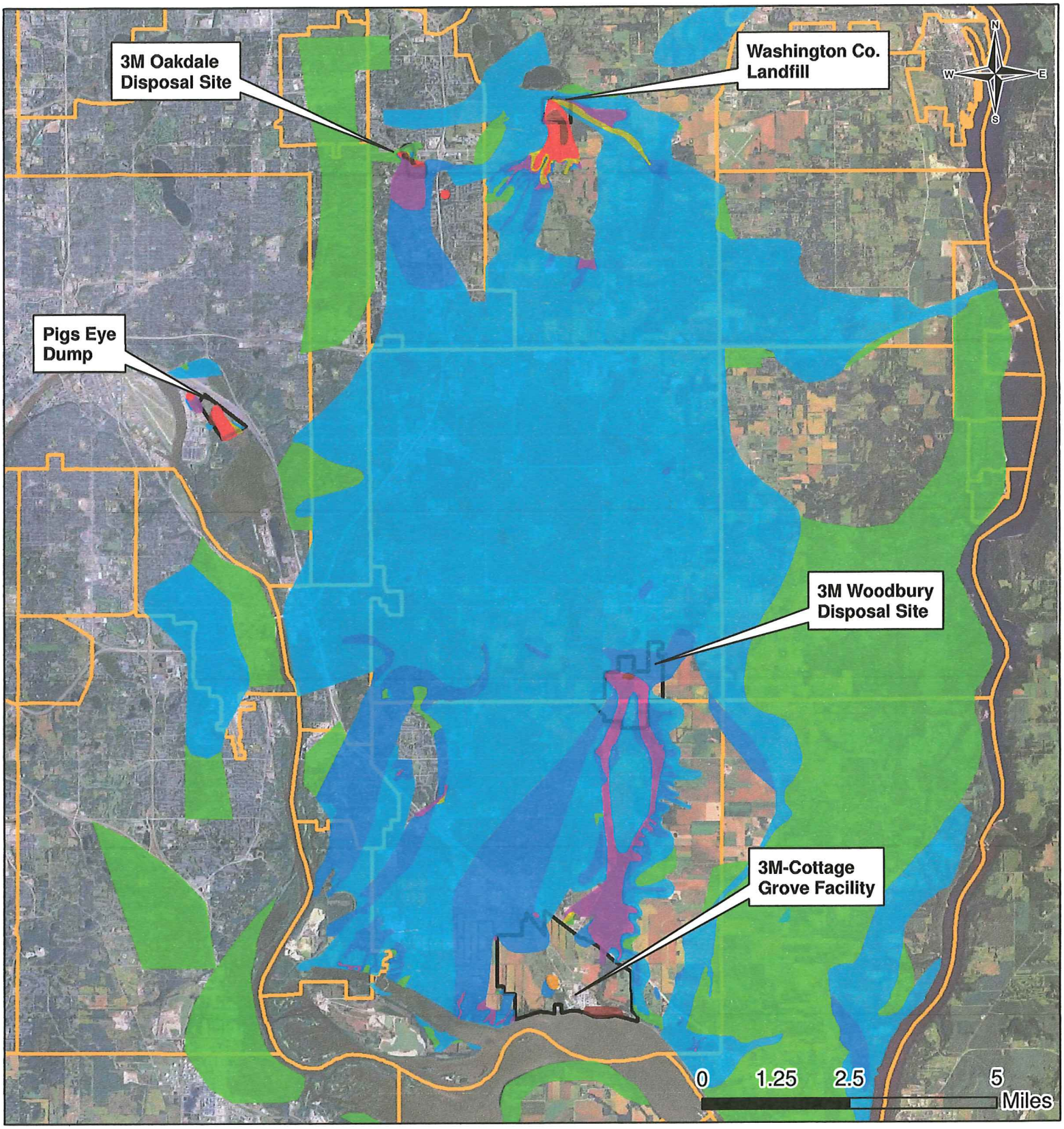
PFOS South of I-94 - All Aquifers

Phone: 651-201-4897
or 1-800-657-3908

- PFOS greater than 1.35 ppb (>50x HBV)
- PFOS 0.271-1.35ppb (10-50x HBV)
- PFOS 0.136-0.27ppb (5-10x HBV)
- PFOS 0.028-0.135ppb (1-5x HBV)
- PFOS 0.021-0.027ppb (75-100% HBV)
- PFOS 0.0136-0.02ppb (50-75% HBV)
- PFOS 0.004-0.0135ppb (<50% HBV)
- PFOS not detected

MDH Health Based Value (HBV) for PFOS is 0.027 parts per billion (ppb; or 27 parts per trillion)

Map combines data from all aquifers, actual concentrations in any area may vary; blank spaces indicate no sample data.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

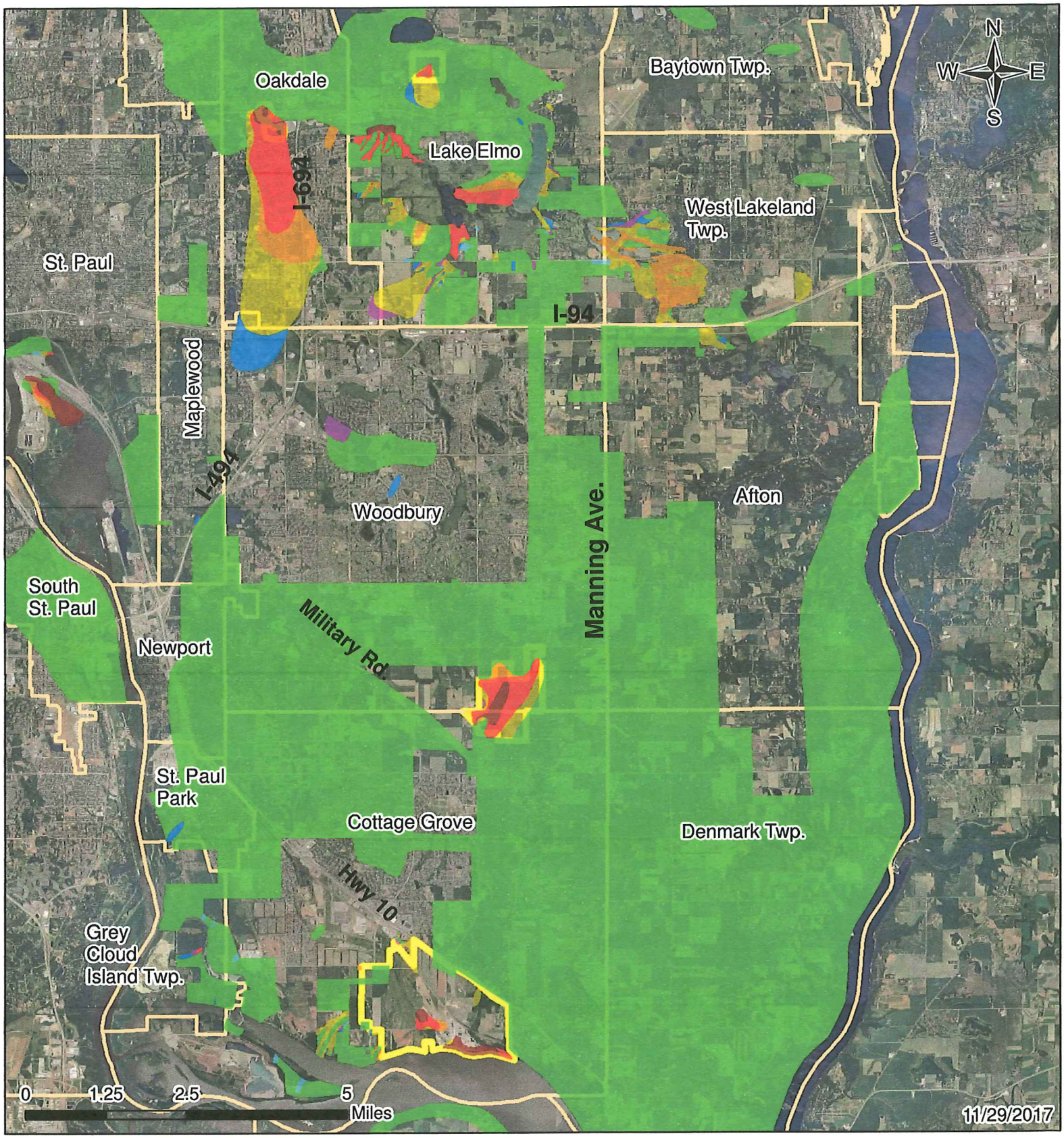
PFBA - All Aquifers

Phone: 651-201-4897
or 1-800-657-3908

- PFBA exceeds HRL (>70ppb)
- PFBA exceeds HRL (7-70ppb)
- PFBA 75-100% HRL (5.25-7ppb)
- PFBA 50-75% HRL (3.5-5.25ppb)
- PFBA 25-50% HRL (1.75-3.5ppb)
- PFBA 10-25% HRL (0.7-1.75ppb)
- PFBA <10% HRL (0.007-0.7ppb)
- PFBA not detected
- city

NOTES: Map combines data from all aquifers, actual concentrations in any area may vary; blank spaces indicate no sample data;
PFBA HRL = 7 ppb

11/29/2017



PFOS in the East Metro - All Aquifers

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Phone: 651-201-4897
or 1-800-657-3908

- PFOS greater than 1.35 ppb (>50x HBV)
- PFOS 0.271-1.35ppb (10-50x HBV)
- PFOS 0.136-0.27ppb (5-10x HBV)
- PFOS 0.028-0.135ppb (1-5x HBV)
- PFOS 0.021-0.027ppb (75-100% HBV)
- PFOS 0.0136-0.02ppb (50-75% HBV)
- PFOS 0.004-0.0135ppb (<50% HBV)
- PFOS not detected

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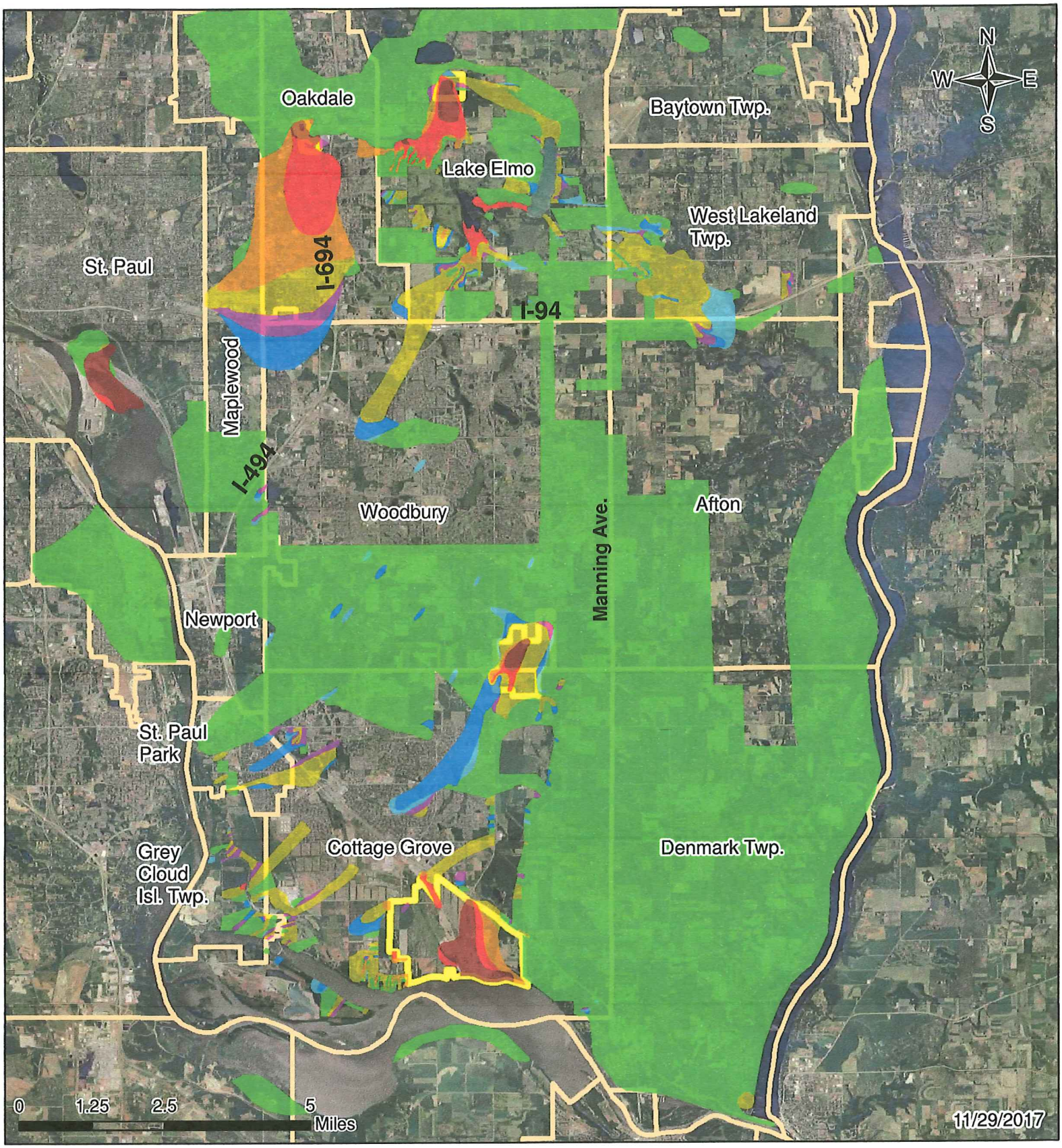
Map combines data from all aquifers, actual concentrations in any area may vary; blank spaces indicate no sample data.



PFOA in East Metro - All Aquifers

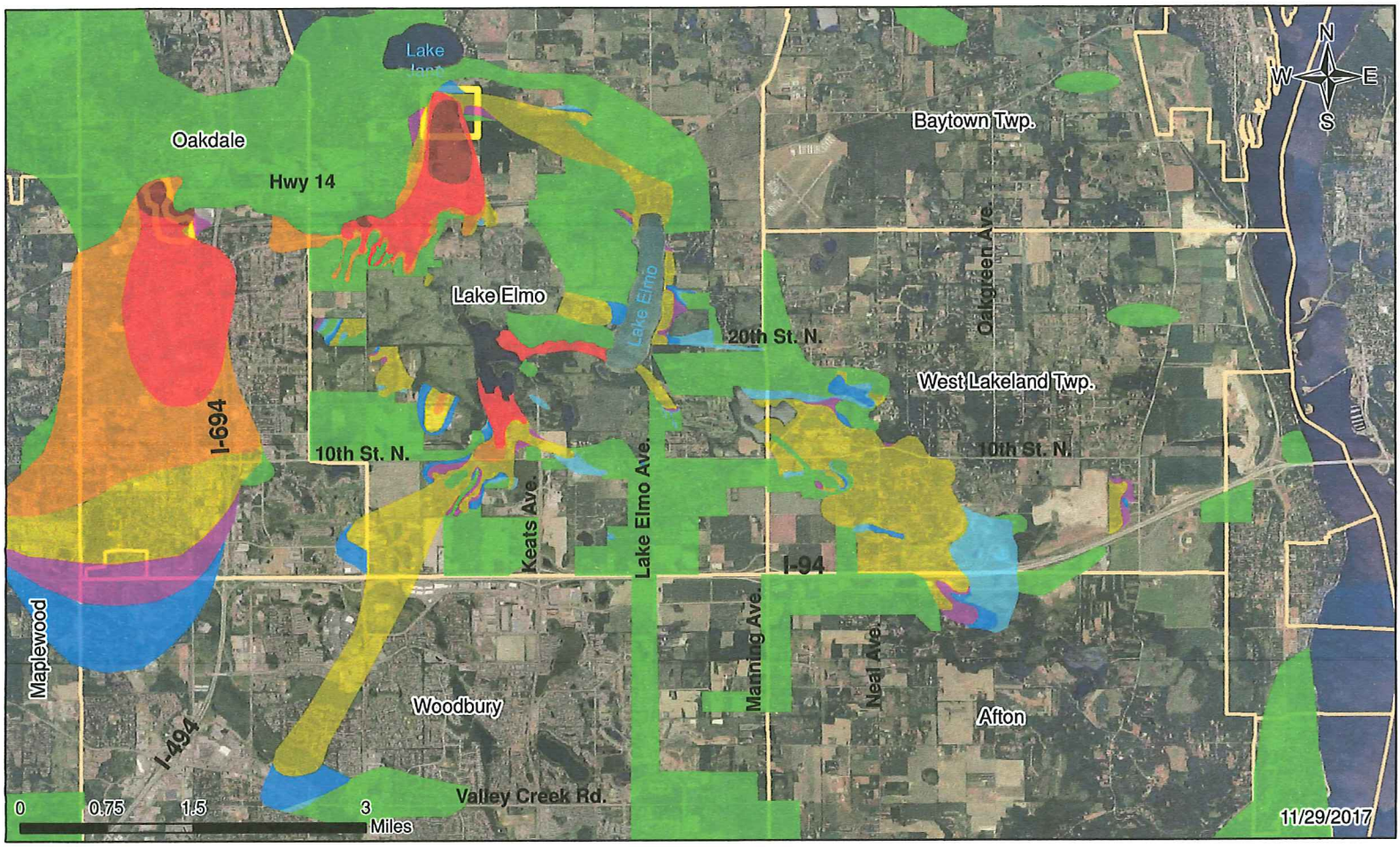
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Phone: 651-201-4897
or 1-800-657-3908

- PFOA greater than 1.75ppb (>50x HBV)
- PFOA 0.351-1.75ppb (10-50x HBV)
- PFOA 0.176-0.35ppb (5-10x HBV)
- PFOA 0.035-0.175ppb (1-5x HBV)
- PFOA 0.027-0.035ppb (75-100% HBV)
- PFOA 0.0175-0.026ppb (50-75% HBV)
- PFOA 0.004-0.0174ppb (<50% HBV)
- PFOA not detected

MDH Health Based Value (HBV) for PFOA is 0.035 parts per billion (ppb; or 35 parts per trillion)

Map combines data from all aquifers, actual concentrations in any area may vary; blank spaces indicate no sample data.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

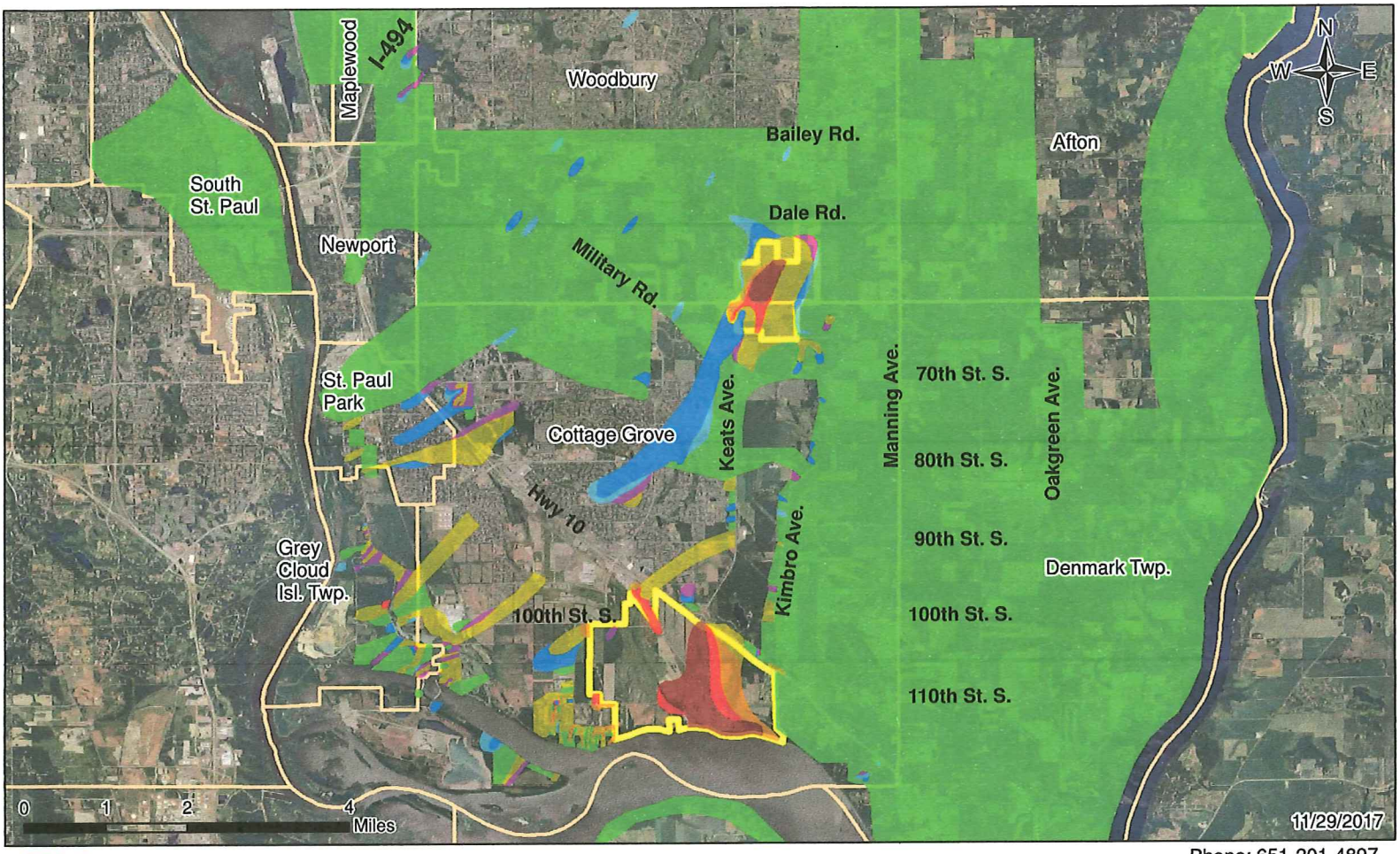
PFOA North of I-94 - All Aquifers

Phone: 651-201-4897
or 1-800-657-3908

- PFOA greater than 1.75ppb (>50x HBV)
- PFOA 0.351-1.75ppb (10-50x HBV)
- PFOA 0.176-0.35ppb (5-10x HBV)
- PFOA 0.035-0.175ppb (1-5x HBV)
- PFOA 0.027-0.035ppb (75-100% HBV)
- PFOA 0.0175-0.026ppb (50-75% HBV)
- PFOA 0.004-0.0174ppb (<50% HBV)
- PFOA not detected

MDH Health Based Value (HBV) for PFOA is 0.035 parts per billion (ppb; or 35 parts per trillion)

Map combines data from all aquifers, actual concentrations in any area may vary; blank spaces indicate no sample data.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PFOA South of I-94 - All Aquifers

Phone: 651-201-4897
or 1-800-657-3908

- PFOA greater than 1.75ppb (>50x HBV)
- PFOA 0.351-1.75ppb (10-50x HBV)
- PFOA 0.176-0.35ppb (5-10x HBV)
- PFOA 0.035-0.175ppb (1-5x HBV)
- PFOA 0.027-0.035ppb (75-100% HBV)
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- PFOA not detected

MDH Health Based Value (HBV) for PFOA is 0.035 parts per billion (ppb; or 35 parts per trillion)

Map combines data from all aquifers, actual concentrations in any area may vary; blank spaces indicate no sample data.

Jack Kollmer

From:	Susan Winsor <susanwinsor@mac.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, December 27, 2017 11:22 AM
To:	Mark Have; Keith Hoffman; Annie Perkins; Ron Moorse; Bake Baker; Jack Kollmer
Subject:	Update from MN Health Dept PFC expert on PFCs in the Afton area
Attachments:	image001.gif; ATT00001.htm; PFBA_all aquifers.pdf; ATT00002.htm; PFOA map_south_11-29-2017.pdf; ATT00003.htm; PFOS map_south_11-29-2017.pdf; ATT00004.htm

I asked the Health Dept why my neighborhood in AFton didn't appear to have been tested for PFCs on the most recent Health Dept PFC data maps....This reply is from the department's PFC expert, thought it was helpful to know--

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Yingling, Virginia (MDH)" <virginia.yingling@state.mn.us>
Subject: PFCs in the Afton area
Date: December 27, 2017 at 11:05:40 AM CST
To: "susanwinsor@mac.com" <susanwinsor@mac.com>

Hello Ms. Winsor:

Jim Kelly asked that I respond to your email. The reason wells in your area have not been tested is because wells located between your area and the PFC sources that have been tested were found to either have no detectable PFCs or contained only traces of perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA) at concentrations that are 10-100 times lower than the drinking water guidance values and barely above the levels found commonly throughout the Twin Cities metro area.

3M disposed of PFC wastes in three areas in Washington County – the former Washington County Landfill in Lake Elmo (just south of Lake Jane); a dump in Oakdale (just west & northwest of the Menards off I-694 and Hwy 14); and a dump near the border of Woodbury & Cottage Grove (near the northwest intersection of Woodbury Dr. and 70th St. S). Groundwater at all three sites flows to the south-southwest, so as you'll see on the attached PFBA map, the main areas of contamination are located "downgradient" (south-southwest) of those disposal areas. Although the 3M-Woodbury Disposal Site is the closest to you in terms of miles, Afton is not located downgradient of it and the PFCs are not migrating towards you. We have sampled dozens of wells along the northeast boundaries of that disposal site and to the east and northeast of it into Afton and Denmark Townships and found only low levels of PFBA (shown in light and dark blue on the map). We have not detected either of the two PFCs – PFOS and PFOA - for which MDH issued new Health Based Values and that have triggered all of the recent sampling in Washington County. As you'll see from the attached PFOA and PFOS maps, those two compounds are not even detected to the east and northeast of the disposal site.

The PFCs from the 3M-Oakdale Disposal Site and former Washington County Landfill did enter a surface water/stormwater drainage system that has transported them east into the Lake Elmo and West Lakeland. We have detected PFOA and PFOS in some wells in northern-most Afton, immediately south of I-94. In that area, the groundwater flows to the east-southeast to discharge to the St. Croix River. We are currently sampling in that area to locate the southern edge of the contaminated area, but I don't expect that it will extend much beyond a half-mile south of the interstate.

I hope this information is helpful. Please let me know if you need anything else.

Best regards,

Ginny Yingling
Hydrogeologist | Site Assessment and Consultation Unit
Environmental Health Division

Minnesota Department of Health
Office: 651-201-4930

5.g & 5.h

City of Afton
Natural Resources and Groundwater Committee

Second Year Summary
2016

Committee Members: Jill Chezik (Chair). Perry Eggers, Mark Have, Keith Hoffman, Jack Kollmer (Vice-Chair), Susan Windsor. City Council liaison was Mayor Richard Bend. Sondra Larson (Secretary) resigned early in the year and was replaced by Annie Perkins (Secretary). Jill Chezik resigned in October of 2016 and was replaced by May Bend. Jack Kollmer became temporary Chair until a new chair was elected in 2017. Bake Baker was added as an additional member in February 2017 and his first meeting was March 7, 2017. Beginning in 2017 Councilman Bill Palmquist became City Council liaison to the Committee.

The Natural Resources and Groundwater Committee was established by the City Council of Afton in 2015 and held its first meeting on April 22, 2015. Monthly meetings were held thereafter. The Annual City Council Work Session with the NRGC to Plan for 2016 was held on March 16, 2016

The NRGC has accomplished:

- Assigned committee members to attend meetings of the following natural resources and groundwater management organizations:
- Valley Branch Watershed District (Mark Have)
- Middle St. Croix Water Management Organization (Sondra Larson) now open.
- South Washington Watershed District, Citizen Advisory Committee (Jill Chezik) open.
- Washington County Water Consortium (Keith Hoffman & Perry Eggers)
- Washington Conservation District (Susan Windsor).
- Reviewed and made comments for the Planning Commissiom and City Council on the Carlson PLCD.

Committee members attended meetings and workshops, reporting back to the NRGC pertinent information; especially as it relates to Afton. See monthly meeting minutes for specific details.

- Developed a Work plan for 2016 to include the following items; Well Testing, Park Dedication review, Conservation Farming Practices, and other projects as assigned by the City Council.
- Drafted a Quality Well Testing Program for Afton. See February 17, 2016 packet and meeting minutes.
- Schedule meeting with Washington County Department of Public Health & Environment Stephanie Souter (POC). See February 17, 2016 meeting minutes. This meeting was cancelled by Ms. Souter and has not been rescheduled.

- Presented first year Summary for 2015 to City Council on March 16, 2016
- Review and comment to City Council on MIDS; October 2016.
-
- Written and published education articles in the City of Afton Newsletter.
- Susan Winsor wrote an article for the Afton Newsletter on the new updated/improved sewage treatment plant for the old Village.
- Mark Have & Keith Hoffman worked on the Well Sampling Program with an article in the Afton Newsletter for September 2016 "Free well water testing for Nitrates this Fall 2016; Resident mailing for well testing sent out September 20, 2016; Initiated sampling program October 11 and October 25, 2016. Well sampling report sent to City Council November 22, 2016.
- Formed a sub-committee to develop a template for the Committee's review of future PLCD's and other major subdivisions.

Ideas for 2017:

Continue and expand the water quality well testing program throughout the entire city of Afton to insure the overall health and welfare of Afton residents.

Complete recommendations on conservation farming practices, especially as related to erosion and chemical groundwater contamination for educational purposes and in cooperation with the goals to reduce chemical contamination in the ST. Croix River.

Review Park Dedication for possible updates and recommendations to the City Council (CC).

Review Comprehensive Plan Revisions as directed by the CC.

Review Septic System ordinances for possible updates and revisions.

Review City of Afton Surface Water Management Plan. The City of Afton's local water management plan is to meet statutory and state rule requirements, to guide the City in conserving, protecting and managing its surface water resources, and to detail how these goals will be accomplished.

Review Afton Natural Resources Inventory and Stewardship plan for proposed updates and recommendations to the CC.

Submitted by Jack Kollmer, NRGC – Vice-Chair.

The bees need YOUR help -- please respond today!

5.h

First, take the fact that over 40 percent of U.S. honeybee hives die each year. Then, consider that 40 percent of invertebrate pollinator species, including bees and butterflies, are on the brink of extinction. Finally, add that one of every three bites of food you and I eat is pollinated by bees and other pollinators.

It doesn't take a genius to do that math. Bees are "canaries in the coal mine," warning us of an imminent and frightening threat to our food. And if we want to save the bees and ourselves…we must act NOW.

Dear Friend,

The crisis facing the world's bees gets worse every day. You can't open a newspaper without reading another story about a massive bee die-off, or beekeepers fearing for the future of their hives. In fact, the bee die-offs are part of a larger insect decline that **one UK scientist is calling an "ecological armageddon."**

You may have heard that diseases, pests and climate change have all been implicated in the global bee die-off. But now, a growing body of science points to a key contributing factor: the world's most popular insecticides — neonicotinoids, or neonics.

Although bans in other countries have been successful — Italy went from losing 37.5% of its hives in 2008 to only 15% after restricting neonics — the U.S. has been slow to act. And with an EPA, administration and Congress stocked with corporate cronies, it's even less likely that our government will act to regulate bee-killing pesticides.

This doesn't sit well with me, and I'm betting it doesn't with you, either. Fortunately, the bees have **Friends of the Earth** on their side. For more than 45 years **Friends of the Earth** has been setting the standard for environmental activism, proving a formidable force for our planet and its myriad inhabitants.

I'm proud to be a part of this tough, scrappy group that has been working tirelessly to protect bees. From convincing retailers like Home Depot and Lowe's to stop stocking neonic-containing products, to pushing manufacturers like Ortho to eliminate neonics, together with people like you, we are making the world a safer place for our pollinators.

And now, we're turning to the grocery industry. Grocery companies have tremendous untapped power to change the way we grow and produce our food. If they refuse to sell products containing bee-killing pesticides, then food growers will have to start supplying them with pesticide-free food that is better for bees, better for the planet, and better for us. Which is why I'm asking you to take two key steps today that will help bees right now:

First, **please join our action network by signing and returning the enclosed Action Letter** to Kroger Company CEO Rodney McMullen, demanding that the company stop selling products and foods produced with bee-toxic pesticides. As the country's largest supermarket chain, with stores — including Harris Teeter, Ralphs and Smith's — in every corner of the country, what Kroger does will have an impact on the entire industry, and when we've convinced them, I know other retailers will follow.

And then, **please join me as a Member of Friends of the Earth today**. By becoming a Member of this bold and aggressive group, you'll join thousands of like-minded citizens worldwide who are helping us wage a no-holds-barred fight for the bees' future and the future of our planet.

(over, please)

Now, let me tell you some of the disturbing facts about neonics. These dangerous poisons — the most widely used insecticides in the world — are lethal to bees. Even at doses that don't kill bees outright, neonics weaken bee immune systems and impair critical brain functions, making it hard for them to find their food sources and leaving them vulnerable to diseases and pests.

The largest producers include companies like Bayer and Syngenta, whose own studies — obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request — show that neonics cause significant harm to bees and other pollinators.

The European Food Safety Authority even says the same class of pesticides ***"may affect the developing nervous system"*** of children! It's terrifying stuff.

Even under President Obama, the EPA was dragging its feet. The agency did finally succumb to pressure and pledge to place a moratorium on new uses of neonics. But that doesn't address the more than 500 neonic products currently on the market. And their proposed pollinator protection plans — which will likely not last long under Trump — do little to help native bees, bumblebees, butterflies or other pollinators, like the nearly extinct rusty patched bumblebee, which was listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act last year.

And there's another neurotoxic insecticide that is beginning to get more attention in the fight to save bees: chlorpyrifos, commonly used in agriculture. A federally funded study conducted by EPA scientists shows that chlorpyrifos can lower children's IQs and is "likely to adversely affect" over 1,700 plants and animals, many of them critically endangered…including bees.

As a result, chlorpyrifos was banned for home use in 2001, and in 2015 the Obama administration recommended revoking its use in agriculture. But almost as soon as Scott Pruitt took charge of the EPA, he announced he would reverse the Obama-era ban.

Which is why we must persuade food retailers, with their large-scale purchasing power, to wield their influence on behalf of our nation's bees.

I know you understand how truly urgent this is. After all, bees and other pollinators are critical in growing two-thirds of our global food crops. From nuts, soybeans, squash and cucumbers, to apples, oranges, avocados and melons, bees play a critical role in producing the food we eat. What's more, honeybees also contribute $20 billion to the U.S. economy. A recent UN-sponsored report estimates that extinction threatens as much as 40% of the world's invertebrate pollinators — like bees.

Clearly, the bees can't wait…and neither can we. **Friends of the Earth** is pulling out all the stops, working on several fronts in an effort to push this issue to the top of our national agenda.

- **Friends of the Earth** commissioned a groundbreaking study of "bee friendly" home garden plants sold at major garden centers across the U.S. and Canada. Our study found that many of the so-called "bee friendly" plants in our gardens have been pre-treated with neonics, at levels that can harm or kill bees. We're urging people to buy certified organic plants and to reject garden products laced with bee-killing pesticides. I've also enclosed an information sheet outlining five ways you can help protect bees at home.

- **Friends of the Earth** has delivered more than a million petitions to top garden retailers in the U.S., demanding that they stop selling neonics and plants that have been pre-treated with these poisons. In response, Home Depot, Lowe's, Walmart, Costco, Whole Foods and True Value have taken

(next page, please)

steps to make the plants and products they sell more pollinator friendly. We're urging the lone major garden retailer holdout, Ace Hardware, to follow suit.

- Our Keep the Hives Alive Tour traveled coast-to-coast last spring, highlighting the plight of pollinators and culminating in a rally outside EPA headquarters. We trucked 2.5 million dead bees across the country to illustrate the massive bee die-offs that happen each year. The tour also delivered nearly five million signatures to the EPA urging an immediate ban on bee-killing pesticides. We also conducted a congressional briefing to discuss neonics and their impact on wildlife and people.

- Leading petrochemical and seed corporations Monsanto, Syngenta and Bayer have developed sophisticated campaigns to divert attention away from the bee-killing pesticides they produce. **Friends of the Earth** has exposed their shady practices and undue influence on our government, particularly on the EPA, which, among other actions, green-lighted Bayer's products based largely on a study funded by the chemical giant itself.

Believe me, **Friends of the Earth** is the best organization out there to accomplish all of these goals. They've got a bold vision for success — one of innovation…progressive change…and mindful reflection on the true costs of corporate greed to us, other species, and our planet. And they aren't afraid to speak truth to power.

Indeed, this savvy group of advocates has racked up an impressive number of victories against steep odds, including these recent wins:

- Almost as soon as Trump took office, Big Oil tried to get an Obama-era rule regulating methane emissions from oil and gas developments on public lands repealed. The rule forced fossil fuel companies to pay for the natural gas burned away when they drilled on public lands, saving communities from pollution and climate-busting CO_2. Despite a massive push from Big Oil, we prevailed in the Senate — a victory for the American people and for our climate.

- We racked up another big win for the environment in our fight against dangerous oil trains in Washington state. Pressure from **Friends of the Earth** and other environmental groups forced Shell to back down from its plans for a new rail facility that would have put 800,000 people at risk from spills and subsequent fires.

- We won a key victory in 2016 when then-President Obama announced a moratorium on new coal leases on federal lands. Now that Trump's Department of the Interior has decided to revive the practice, we're restarting a lawsuit to stop it in the D.C. Circuit court.

These were hard-fought, groundbreaking achievements against powerful foes. They required **Friends of the Earth's** special brand of uncompromising tenacity and attention to detail. And *none* of our victories would have been possible without generous people like you supporting us each step of the way, acting as the vanguard force behind our broad, planet-wide agenda to:

Defend our communities. **Friends of the Earth** works to ensure the basics — safe food, clean water, breathable air and healthy consumer products — for all of us.

Bayer and Monsanto are poised to take even more control of our food system if the proposed merger of the companies is approved — something made more likely with Trump in charge. We must continue to lead the fight to get us off this toxic treadmill and transition to safe, sustainable food.

(over, please)

Your signature and your gift can make a big difference!

Protect our climate and clean our air. We fight back against the powerful oil, coal and nuclear lobbies, campaigning for clean energy, green technologies and transportation options, and effective strategies to combat climate change.

Now, this work is more important than ever. Trump has already pushed to open up our public lands to fossil fuel extraction. He is withdrawing the U.S. from the Paris climate agreement. And he's taken the first step toward massively expanding oil drilling in our oceans. With your help, we'll stand in his way.

Hold government and corporations accountable. **Friends of the Earth** is second-to-none in acting as a watchdog, exposing polluters' money trails and demanding accountability from our representatives in Washington. The Trump administration is pushing this corruption to new heights. That's why we've implemented a broad strategic plan that includes countering Trump's anti-environment executive orders, blocking bad legislation, leveraging our corporate campaigns to push for change, and fighting hard at the local level to implement much-needed environmental policies.

Collaborate internationally to achieve global solutions. **Friends of the Earth** is a leader in an international federation of partners from 75 countries across the globe — the world's largest network of environmental activists. Our environment doesn't stop at the border, so neither does our powerful advocacy for the planet and the people and wildlife who call it home.

This is the strong, compassionate, global network you'll be part of when you join **Friends of the Earth**. It is one that innovates and collaborates as it defends and protects our planet…one that can — and will — act immediately to help save the bees…our planet…and us.

You and I both know we're in for an uphill battle for the next four years. But we can't let Donald Trump think for one minute that we'll let him get away with destroying our environment.

The decisions that you and I make today will determine the outcome for the bees and ourselves. That's why I hope you'll decide to join me in helping **Friends of the Earth** wage this all-important battle by signing the enclosed Action Letter to Kroger Company CEO Rodney McMullen, and by becoming a Member today.

Your help will accomplish more than you can imagine. As a new Member of **Friends of the Earth**, you will become part of a major force for change. So please, join us today. The Earth and all those who call it home — including the bees! — are counting on you.

Sincerely,

Ed Begley Jr.

Ed Begley, Jr.

EB:ba

P.S. I make it a point to live by the simple but powerful idea that I *can* make a difference in this world. It's a notion that has informed nearly every decision I've made in my life, including the decision I made over thirty years ago to join **Friends of the Earth**. You, too, can become a part of the change our planet so urgently needs by **signing your Action Letter and becoming a Member of Friends of the Earth today**.

HELP STOP THIS SECOND "SILENT SPRING!"

Acetamiprid...Clothianidin...Dinotefuran... Imidacloprid...Thiamethoxam

These chemicals are killing bees. If you see any of these ingredients listed on products in your home or your local garden center, do not use them.

NEONICS HIDE IN THESE POPULAR BRANDS:

• Aloft • Arena • Allectus • Atera • Bithor • Caravan
• Coretect • Derby • Dino • Dominion • Equil Adonis
• Flagship • Flower, Rose, & Shrub Care
• Gaucho • Grub-No-More • Grubout
• Hawk • Imaxxpro • Ima-Jet • Imi Insecticide
• Imicide • Imid-Bifen • Imida-Teb Garden SC
• Imidapro • Imigold • Lada • Malice • Mallet
• Mantra • Marathon • Meridian • Merit
• Nuprid • Optigard Flex • Pasada • Pointer
Insecticide • Premise • Pronto • Prothor • Safari
• Sagacity • Starkle: Bounty • Tandem • Temprid
• Triple Crown Insecticide • Tristar • Turfthor • Xytect

Bees are "canaries in the coal mine," warning us of an imminent and frightening threat to our food.

You can help save the bees — and ourselves — by supporting Friends of the Earth and our Bee Action Campaign.

Sign your Petition and make a contribution TODAY!

Friends of the Earth BeeAction.org

photo: Graham White - Eco-Media

Bee a Part of Friends of the Earth's Bee Action Campaign

Aster

Black-Eyed Susan

Blazing Star

Calstrop

Creosote Bush

Currant

Elder Flower

Goldenrod

Huckleberry

Joe Pye Weed

Lupine

Oregon Grape

Penstemon

Purple Coneflower

Rabbitbush

Rhododendron

Scorpion Weed

Snowberry

Stonecrop

Sunflower

Wild Buckwheat

Wild Lilac

Willow

Woodland Sage

Support Friends of the Earth... For the Bees, For Ourselves!

Photos Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

5 WAYS YOU CAN HELP SAVE THE BEES:

BEE SAFE!

Plant any of the flowers on the left in your garden using organic starts or untreated seeds to provide good food and a safe haven for bees.

BEE AWARE!

Use alternative pest control methods, like landscaping to attract beneficial insects, and eco-friendly pest-control products.

BEE VIGILANT!

Read labels and steer clear of products containing neonicotinoids or chlorpyrifos. (See reverse for a list of common brands containing neonics.)

BEE VOCAL!

Tell your friends and family about the importance of bees and how they can help.

BEE AN ACTIVIST!

Sign your Petition to Kroger CEO Rodney McMullen and ask your local garden retailer to stop carrying products containing neonicotinoids.

Friends of the Earth

BeeAction.org

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December 19, 2017 City Council Meeting Highlights

The Council:

- Was updated on upcoming activities at the Belwin Conservancy
- Held a public hearing on the 2018 Budget
- Adopted the Final 2018 Budget and Levy
- Authorized staff to research dimming or shielding lights in the old village which are disturbing residential properties
- Approved the 2018 rate schedule for Engineering Services from WSB
- Approved the 2018 Planning Commission meeting schedule
- Approved a request to allow horses on the cartway adjacent to 14933 Afton Blvd with the condition that any erosion that occurs be remediated through an agreement with two of the households adjacent
- Approved parking of public works vehicles at the city garage
- Tabled discussion of Preservation and Land Conservation Development (PLCD) and Planned Unit Development (PUD)
- Approved payment of Pay Voucher No.8 from Geislinger and Sons Inc. for the Downtown Improvement Project in the amount of $1,371,963.61
- Approved payment of Pay Request No. 8 from Ellingson In for the Wastewater Treatment System Project in the amount of $83,024.29
- Re-appointed 3 members of the Natural Resource and Groundwater Committee