

Public Health | Environmental Health
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Dear Resident,

You are receiving this information because you live or own property in an area that may be affected by groundwater contamination.

The Rockwood Sensitive Area was designated under the Rockwood Sensitive Area Regulation (Manitoba Regulation 121/94) following the discovery of trichloroethylene (TCE) contamination in groundwater in the early 1990s. The contamination originated from industrial use of TCE as a degreasing solvent. The regulation restricts well drilling and modification without a permit to protect public health and prevent further contamination. Since identified, a municipal water supply providing safe water to many local residents was installed in the area. Select private wells are tested (no cost to homeowner) by Magellan Aerospace annually and receive well testing results by Manitoba Environment and Climate Change. Please contact Winnipeg.environmental@magellan.aero for more information about whether your well could qualify to be tested.

The Rockwood Sensitive Area includes land sections confirmed or at risk of contamination and remains under ongoing monitoring and public health advisories:

1. **Groundwater in the following land sections contains TCE above the limits for drinking water set by Health Canada.** It is not safe to use in your home for any domestic purpose:
 - a. Section 36 and east ½ of section 35, of Township 12, Range 2, East of the Principal Meridian;
 - b. Sections 31 and 32, of Township 12, Range 3, East of the Principal Meridian;
 - c. Section 1, east ½ of section 2, east ½ of section 13, and east ½ of section 24, of Township 13, Range 2, East of the Principal Meridian; and
 - d. Sections 5 through 8, west ½ of section 9, sections 16 through 21, west ½ of section 22, west ½ of section 27, sections 28 and 29, and south ½ of section 30, of Township 13, Range 3, East of the Principal Meridian.

2. **Groundwater in the following land sections may be contaminated with TCE, but recent tests show that the levels of contamination are below limits for drinking water set by Health Canada.** Please note that some of these sections fall outside of the Rockwood Sensitive Area:

- a. North $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 25, of Township 12, Range 2, East of the Principal Meridian;
- b. Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 28, north $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 29, north $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 30, and west $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 33, of Township 12, Range 3, East of the Principal Meridian;
- c. East $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 12, of Township 13, Range 2, East of the Principal Meridian;
- d. West $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 4, east $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 9, west $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 15, northeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 22, northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 23, west $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 26, east $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 27, northeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 30, east $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 31, and sections 32 and 33, of Township 13, Range 3, East of Principal Meridian; and
- e. Sections 4 and 5, of Township 14, Range 3, East of the Principal Meridian.

Homeowners in this area should test well water at least once a year to confirm the safety of their water. Magellan Aerospace may cover the cost of this test. If TCE is detected in your water, but the level is less than 0.005 mg/L (the Health Canada standard), the water does not pose an increased health risk. The water can be used in your home for drinking and other household purposes. If the level is above 0.005 mg/L, please call the Office of Drinking Water at 204-945-5762 to discuss your test result.

If you have any concerns about your health related to TCE, please consult your primary care provider. They can contact a regional Medical Officer of Health for further guidance.

For more information about the Rockwood Sensitive Area, please visit <https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/water/drinking-water/well-videos/index.html>

Additional contact information:

- For information on the TCE contamination and site history contact ContaminatedSites@gov.mb.ca.
- For well water inquiries, including interpretation of water test results: Contact the Office of Drinking Water at 204-945-5762.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Dr. Karen Robinson
Regional Medical Officer of Health
Interlake Eastern Regional Health Authority

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Dr. Lisa Richards
Medical Officer of Health
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority