

**Village of Nelsonville**  
**Groundwater Protection Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**September 24, 2018 6:30pm | Nelsonville Village Hall**

**Basic outline of the Nelsonville well study:**

- Portage County is conducting a study of well water in Nelsonville. This study is made possible from a \$10,000 grant. Water samples will be collected by Portage County Staff **November 5-8**. Members of this Committee will assist with collection.
- Samples will be taken to the UW-Stevens Point Water Lab for testing.
- There is enough money in the grant to test all Village wells (excluding high cap wells) and run 20 source tests. All wells will be tested using a "Homeowner's Package."
- Results from this study will not be made public. Results will only be made public if homeowners sign the permission slip created and distributed by this Committee. Contact Lisa Anderson if you have not already signed a permission slip and wish to do so.
- Data from the homeowners who granted permission for the results to be made public will be used by the Village and this Committee for further analysis.

**Committee Members will assist County Staff with collecting water samples November 5-8**

- Monday: Tarion
- Tuesday: Caitlin
- Wednesday: Lisa/Rubina
- Thursday: Lisa/Rubina
- Kyle is not sure which day he will be available but would still like to help when he can.

**Remaining permission slips.** We have new slips. But there still seems to be some resistance from some village residents. Others would like more information about the testing program before they sign. 51 out of 77 wells have agreed to release the results of their water test.

**"Illegal wells."** There is a common belief that shallow point/driven point/non-conforming wells are illegal. These wells are not illegal. They can still be tested in the testing program.

**Nelsonville Well Study meeting:** Hosted by Portage County staff. October 22 at 6:30pm at Amherst School.

**Groundwater flow map** presented by Tarion. Prepared by Portage County Planning and Zoning. Discussion about what this map means for the Village groundwater.

**Discussion about keeping an open dialogue and productive conversation about what to do with the results.**

**Kyle updated us about the farming practices taken within the village boundaries.** Alfalfa and winter wheat have been planted on fields within the village. Manure or commercial nitrogen is not usually spread on fields with alfalfa. And manure/commercial nitrogen was not applied on these fields this year. *Instinct* has also been applied to these fields. *Instinct* is a new product that causes nitrate to bind to the soil to prevent leaching.

**There is still a lot for us to learn** about general farming methods, Gordondale practices, nutrient management.

**Action Items:** Find a third-party lab to spot check nitrate results

**Community Concerns:** Maybe another lab, in addition to UWSP, can be used to "spot check" nitrate results.

**The Portage County meeting on October 22 at Amherst School will** replace next month's Groundwater Protection Committee meeting.