



PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

1462 STRONGS AVENUE, STEVENS POINT, WI 54481 • PHONE: 715-346-1334 • FAX: 715-346-1677

Dear Village of Nelsonville Resident,

We invite you to attend a public meeting about the Drinking Water Quality Sampling Project in the Village of Nelsonville. This sampling project will be conducted by the Division of Public Health and Planning and Zoning Department of Portage County. The meeting will be held on Monday October 22, 2018 at 6:30-8 pm at the Cafetorium in the Amherst School located at 357 North Main St Amherst, WI 54406.

The purpose of the sampling project is to provide Village of Nelsonville residents with basic drinking water quality testing and to participate in a discussion on the importance of annual testing. This project is funded through a Wisconsin Environmental Health Tracking Grant provided by the Wisconsin Division of Health Services.

On November 5-7, 2018 a team of Portage County staff will be in the Village of Nelsonville collecting water samples from residential wells of homeowners who chose to participate in the project. Homeowners will have their water sample tested for bacteria, nitrate-nitrogen, chloride, pH, total hardness, conductivity, and alkalinity for free, at no cost to them. All samples will be analyzed at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Water and Environmental Analysis Lab.

A second round of testing, on a subset of wells, will be conducted in December. This second round of testing will include nitrate-nitrogen source testing for 20 wells that have nitrate-nitrogen concentrations exceeding the state drinking water standard. The 20 source samples will be distributed throughout the village and include a variety of well depths. These wells will be determined after the results from the initial round of testing have been analyzed.

Homeowners will receive the results of all tests that are performed on their own well. A summary of the results will be shared in a presentation to the Village of Nelsonville Board and residents. Note: these results will be displayed in a way that protect individual homeowners' results and identities. The Village of Nelsonville Board has asked residents to share their results. If a homeowner chooses to share their results with the board that is up to them and does not affect their ability to participate in this project.

The public meeting, hosted by Portage County, is intended to provide Village residents with information about the project, how sampling will be conducted, why this project is important, and how the information will be used in the future. County staff will be on hand to answer any questions residents might have. This is also an opportunity for residents to schedule a time during November 5-7, 2018 for County Staff to collect a sample from your residential well. A second meeting will be held October 30, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the Nelsonville Lutheran Church for anyone who is not able to attend the first meeting. We would strongly encourage you to attend the Oct. 22 meeting if at all possible, due to space constraints at the church.

The success of this project depends on the participation of village residents, such as yourself. The more residents that participate the more information we can gather about the current state of water quality within the village. The public informational meeting is great way to learn more and have any questions answered. We look forward to seeing you on October 22, 2018 at 6:30 at the Amherst School Cafetorium.

Our sincere thanks,

Gary Garske
Health Officer
Portage County Health and Human Services

Jen McNelly
Water Resource Specialist
Portage County Planning and Zoning

PLANNING • ZONING AND CODE ADMINISTRATION • LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION

ON-SITE WASTE • GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT • ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS PARK DEVELOPMENT