



**Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services**

P.O. Box 570, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0570 Phone: 573-751-6400 FAX: 573-751-6010  
RELAY MISSOURI for Hearing and Speech Impaired and Voice dial: 711

**Randall W. Williams, MD, FACOG**  
Director



**Michael L. Parson**  
Governor

January 10, 2020

Dear Springfield Area Resident:

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) has been working in collaboration with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to ensure public health protection related to trichloroethylene (TCE) in private well water associated with a groundwater plume from the Former Litton Systems, Inc. Site in Springfield, Missouri. During the recent open house and informational meeting hosted by DNR, DHSS announced that DHSS is developing a public health consultation which will evaluate community exposures to TCE in private well water and that we would also be seeking community input through a questionnaire intended to help gather community concerns and information on how best to communicate with the community. A copy of the DHSS factsheet from that informational meeting is included as well as a copy of the community questionnaire.

The questionnaire is being provided as a paper copy and is also available as a fill-in form. Please take a few minutes to complete either the paper version of the questionnaire and return it in the postage-paid envelope or complete the online version of the questionnaire available at the following website:  
[https://missouriwic.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3qGI4NqF2lhhEup](https://missouriwic.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3qGI4NqF2lhhEup).

The deadline for completing this questionnaire is **January 31, 2020**. Following this, a summary of responses to the questionnaire will be developed and the public health consultation will be completed and shared with the community.

We certainly appreciate your time and assistance in completing the questionnaire. If you have questions regarding this questionnaire, please contact Michelle Hartman with DHSS, at: (573) 751-6102 or 1-866-628-9891 (toll-free).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeff Wenzel".

Jeff Wenzel, Chief  
Bureau of Environmental Epidemiology

JW:MDH  
Enclosures

[www.health.mo.gov](http://www.health.mo.gov)

**Healthy Missourians for life.**

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services will be the leader in promoting, protecting and partnering for health.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER: Services provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.



## Coming Soon: Public Health Consultation Evaluation of Trichloroethylene (TCE) in Private Wells Former Litton Systems, Inc. Site, Springfield, MO

### What are the community concerns?

The community has expressed concerns regarding the safety of private well water for TCE detections above and below the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 5 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$ ) for TCE (the standard set to ensure the safety of drinking water). Currently, all households with TCE levels exceeding the MCL have been supplied with water treatment systems. In addition, all wells with detections are being sampled on a quarterly basis for a period of one year and then annually to ensure TCE concentrations do not exceed the MCL over time.

### How is the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) responding to these concerns?

DHSS' role in site investigations is to evaluate potential health risks from exposure to hazardous substances in the environment, to make health-protective recommendations regarding actions needed to reduce any potential risks, and to educate communities about the possible health effects of exposure to those hazardous substances.

**DHSS is developing a public health consultation which will evaluate community exposures to TCE in private well water. This report will explain DHSS' findings about exposure and present any recommendations to protect public health.**

A health consultation is a report that provides an evaluation of the data collected and of potential health effects posed by exposure to hazardous substances at amounts found in the environment. The report may also recommend steps or actions to protect public health. Health consultations are initiated in response to health concerns raised by residents or agencies about exposure to hazardous substances.

### DHSS Seeking Community Input

**DHSS will also be seeking community input through a questionnaire intended to help gather community concerns and information on how best to communicate with the community.**

#### Private Well Sampling

Extensive private well sampling is being conducted around the former Litton Systems, Inc. site to identify wells that may be impacted by a TCE groundwater plume.

The current sampling began in late 2018 and a total of 353 homes that obtain drinking water from private wells have been sampled so far. 80 of these had detections of TCE with 6 above the MCL. Additional sampling of private wells and investigations of the contaminant plume continue in the area.

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Toxicity information on TCE is available at the following links:

- <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfags/af.asp?id=172&tid=30>
- <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/tox-tool/trichloroethylene/index.html>

Additional information regarding the site is available at <https://dnr.mo.gov/env/hwp/sfund/LittonSystems/>.

For health-related questions or for more information on the public health consultation for the site, contact DHSS' Bureau of Environmental Epidemiology at (573) 751-6102 or 1-866-628-9891 (toll-free).



# COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE Trichloroethylene (TCE) in Private Wells Springfield, Missouri

**Please Note:**  
This questionnaire is also available as a fill-in form at the following website:  
[https://missouriwic.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3qGI4NgF2lhhEup](https://missouriwic.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3qGI4NgF2lhhEup)

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) is conducting a Public Health Consultation to evaluate community exposures to TCE in private well water associated with a groundwater plume from the Former Litton Systems, Inc. Site in Springfield, Missouri. This report will explain DHSS' findings about TCE exposure and present any recommendations to protect public health. Part of the work involved in developing the Public Health Consultation includes collecting and responding to concerns of Springfield residents about the contamination and potential health effects. The results of this questionnaire will help us in identifying to those concerns and allow us to effectively communicate information important to the community.

Please take a few moments to fill out this questionnaire and return it to the address at the end. Thank you very much for your time and assistance!

## Contact Information (OPTIONAL)

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Demographic Information

2. How many years have you lived at your current address? \_\_\_\_\_ years  
3. How many adults live in the home? \_\_\_\_\_  
How many children age 17 and under live in the home? \_\_\_\_\_  
4. Is your drinking water supplied by a private well or public drinking water?  
 Private Well  
 Public Drinking Water

**For those with a private well, please answer questions 5 to 8 in this section and then continue with the remainder of the survey. For those on public drinking water, please skip to question 9 in the Community Outreach section.**

5. Has your private well been tested for TCE?  
 Yes, **If yes, please identify if TCE was detected or not:**  TCE detected  TCE not detected  
 No

6. Have you had your private well tested for general water quality concerns that are not site-related (such as bacteria, metals, etc.)?

- Yes, **If yes, how long ago?:**  within the past year  a year ago or longer  unknown  
 No

7. Do you have construction information on your private well?

- Yes, **If yes, what year was your well constructed?:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 No

8. Do you have a water treatment system installed on your private well?

- Yes, **If yes, please answer the following additional questions:**  
- **What type of water treatment system?:** \_\_\_\_\_  
- **Is the water treatment system specifically designed to remove TCE?:**  yes  no  unknown  
- **Was the water treatment system installed before or after you learned about this site?:**  before  after  
 No

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### Community Outreach

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9. When did you first find out about the TCE contamination of private wells in the area?

- I just learned about it  
 I don't remember  
 Specify month or approximate time of year (e.g., Winter 2018): \_\_\_\_\_

10. How have you been receiving information about the site? (check all that apply)

- Local health center  
 Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
 Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services  
 State or local elected officials  
 Government-hosted community meeting  
 Local news  
 Social Media (Facebook, etc.)  
 Word of mouth / neighbors  
 Other – Please identify: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Please indicate your feelings regarding the availability of information on the site.

- Too much  
 Just right  
 Not enough

12. How would you prefer to receive public health information about the site? (check all that apply)

- Mail  
 Government-hosted community meeting  
 Local news  
 Website  
 Email  
 Other – Please identify: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Community Concerns

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13. On a scale from 1 to 5, how satisfied do you feel with the state response to identify impacted wells and inform the residents of results?

- 1 (least satisfied)  2  3  4  5 (most satisfied)

**14. On a scale from 1 to 5, to what extent do you feel informed about potential exposures in the community?**  
 1 (not informed)                       2                       3                       4                       5 (very informed)

**15. On a scale from 1 to 5, how concerned do you feel about exposure to TCE in drinking water?**  
 1 (not concerned)                       2                       3                       4                       5 (very concerned)

**16. Has DHSS helped you to better understand the potential health risks at this site?**  
 Yes  
 No  
 Some, but not all  
 Unsure

**17. What are your main concerns regarding the site or TCE exposures in the area?:**

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**18. What specific questions about potential health risks would you like answered?:**

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**19. Are there any other environmental concerns or comments you would like to provide?:**

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20. DHSS can provide health care providers with information about TCE exposure and the public health consultation process and findings. Would you like your health provider(s) to be added to our mailing list?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please provide contact information:

Physician Name: _____
Address: _____ _____
City: _____ Zip code: _____
Telephone: _____

Physician Name: _____
Address: _____ _____
City: _____ Zip code: _____
Telephone: _____

Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Thank you for taking time to complete this questionnaire.**

**Please complete and return the survey by January 31, 2020, to:**  
**Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services**  
**Bureau of Environmental Epidemiology**  
**P.O. Box 570**  
**Jefferson City, MO 65102-0570**

**If you have questions regarding this questionnaire, please contact Michelle Hartman with DHSS, at:  
(573) 751-6102 or 1-866-628-9891 (toll-free)**