

This newsletter has been developed to share updates about the on-going environmental work in the Bishop Street Community.

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Update

The ministry is working to ensure that environmental programs are in place to address trichloroethylene (TCE) contamination in groundwater resulting from historical operations at the former Northstar Aerospace and former Borg-Warner (GE Canada) facilities on Bishop Street, as well as the indoor air mitigation systems and a number of monitoring programs.

New contract for environmental services awarded to AET Group Inc.

Following a competitive contracting process, AET Group Inc. was awarded a new five-year contract and will continue to operate, maintain and monitor the environmental programs and the Community Information Centre (CIC) within the Bishop Street Community.

Winter Indoor Air Sampling will begin in December

Each year, we conduct indoor air testing in the neighbourhood to determine which homes need air mitigation systems and to confirm the installed systems are working effectively.

The next indoor air monitoring is planned for December 2023 through March 2024. In addition to homes that are sampled annually, we will also include homes that are eligible to have their indoor air sampled every five years.

Eligible homes will be contacted by the CIC to schedule an indoor air sampling appointment.

Planned removal of Soil Vapour Extraction Systems

The ministry is beginning to plan for the shut-down of backyard soil vapour extraction systems (SVE) and replace them with a new, sub-slab depressurization (SSD) system at no cost to homeowners.

There are 18 sheds throughout the community that provide indoor air mitigation to 62 homes. Indoor air mitigation will continue to be needed. Each of these homes will be offered an individual SSD system to ensure their indoor air quality remains safe.

Homeowners will be directly contacted through the CIC with more information as the project progresses.

When do you need an indoor air mitigation system?

The air mitigation systems are necessary for homes with elevated trichloroethylene (TCE) levels to ensure indoor concentrations stay below 0.5 micrograms per cubic metre ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), which is the protective level recommended by Public Health.

The Ontario government provides and maintains air mitigation systems for existing homes in the Bishop Street Community with elevated levels of TCE at no cost.

GE Canada Update

Since 2009, GE Canada has completed soil and groundwater remedial efforts at 610 Bishop Street North and continues to share in indoor air mitigation efforts in the Bishop Street Community. GE Canada provides support to both indoor air mitigation and monitoring work conducted by the CIC.

GE Canada's remedial efforts of injecting potassium permanganate in the southwestern portion of 610 Bishop Street property from 2009 through 2015 have been effective in destroying TCE in the soil and shallow groundwater. In 2015, the potassium permanganate injections had reached the limit of their ability to destroy TCE and GE Canada has since verified that the long-term effects of the remedial efforts have resulted in a sustained decrease to near background levels in shallow groundwater. All ongoing monitoring and mitigation efforts are being conducted in consultation with the ministry.

Region of Waterloo Public Health Update

Mitigation measures in homes continue to be successful at reducing levels of TCE in indoor air, and have resulted in the large majority of homes having concentrations of TCE below $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The long-term goal of this program is to bring all homes down to $0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ or less. Region of Waterloo Public Health will continue to review the results of the indoor air sampling program, which is carried out by AET and overseen by the ministry, to ensure these levels remain low.

To access the Public Health Fact Sheet on TCE or additional information, visit the Region of Waterloo Public Health website on TCE www.regionofwaterloo.ca/TCE

CIC Update

AET continues to manage the CIC as a one-window access point for the community. All relevant information pertaining to the Bishop Street Community can still be obtained by contacting the CIC at AET's Cambridge office.

Contacting the CIC

Call the CIC through AET's Cambridge office at 519-653-0680 or email us at info@aet98.com to reach Janet, Laurel, Matt or Lisa.

CIC Reminders

- Check your SSD alarm to ensure it is showing a green light. If no green light is visible, this means there is an issue with the system. Please contact the CIC to let us know.
- If your home is on a SVE system, call the CIC before you dig deeper than 2 feet in your front or back yard.
- CIC staff continue to monitor mitigation equipment located in backyards throughout the year.