

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kent County Health Department to Facilitate Town Hall Meeting Regarding Contaminated Belmont Well Water

GRAND RAPIDS – Recent findings of potentially toxic chemicals in private wells in Belmont are prompting residents, public health officials, state regulators and businesses to question the safety of drinking water near a former landfill site on House Street in Plainfield Township.

To serve the public and provide the most accurate and up-to-date information possible, the Kent County Health Department will host a town hall meeting in the Rockford Fine Arts Auditorium at Rockford High School, 4100 Kroes St. NE, Rockford, MI. 49341.

The meeting, to be held on Tuesday, September 12, 2017, will begin at 4:30 p.m. when people will be able to meet individually with representatives of the following invited agencies:

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Kent County Health Department

Plainfield Township Wolverine World Wide

No appointment will be necessary and the table conference meetings will be held on a first come first served basis. Participants should use the "Fine Arts Entrance" of Rockford High School. This portion of the meeting will be closed to media.

At 6:00 p.m. a town hall style meeting will begin in the auditorium. Each represented agency will provide a brief update on the status of the investigation. Members of the audience will then be invited to ask their questions directly of the panel.

Media Note: An audio feed will be provided for the town hall portion of the meeting. Camera positions for TV have also been established. Please contact Steve Kelso if you are planning live shots for ENG/DSNG parking. In order to preserve the integrity of the meeting, live shots inside the auditorium during the event will not be allowed.

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KCHD has been in the business of providing health services to Kent County since 1931. The Health Department is home to nearly 265 employees including public health nurses, sanitarians, health educators, technicians, public health administrators, and specialized staff at the Kent County Animal Shelter. The Health Department operates one main clinic and three satellite clinics located in Kentwood, Rockford, and Grand Rapids. To learn more about KCHD services, visit www.accesskent.com/health.