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## **City of St. Louis Park supports site placement on the EPA's National Priorities List**

The City of St. Louis Park is pleased to report that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has recommended the Highway 100 and County Road 3 Groundwater Plume Site, previously referred to as the St. Louis Park Solvent Plume Site, for proposed placement on the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Priorities List (NPL). This makes the site eligible for investigation and cleanup under the Superfund program. The City of St. Louis Park is in full support of this step to ensure those who caused the contamination are held responsible and to ensure the ongoing health and safety of residents.

### *Health concerns already addressed*

Any health concerns related to this site have already been addressed by the MPCA, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), EPA and the City of St. Louis Park.

- In 2008, at no charge to the homeowner, 41 homes were fitted with vapor extraction systems to treat elevated levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in indoor air or in the soil beneath the homes.
- The city has been working successfully with the MPCA, MDH and the EPA to ensure the safety of its drinking water in relation to this site, and to protect residents from any adverse effects of this contamination. Water Treatment Plant #4 was taken out of service in 2016 when contaminants were detected that were believed to result from the Highway 100 and County Road 3 Groundwater Plume Site. Upgrades that have since been installed at the plant treat all identified contaminants, regardless of their source, down to published advisory levels for drinking water. The plant was returned to service in early 2019.

### *Site history*

In April 2004, the MPCA began searching for the source of vinyl chloride contamination that had been detected in several City of Edina wells that drew water from the Prairie du Chien-Jordan Aquifer. Between 2006 and 2017, the source was traced back to an area near Walker and Lake streets in St. Louis Park. While an exact source hasn't been identified, it's important to note that the businesses associated with the chemical release no longer operate in these areas. Contamination in the groundwater is from previous uses.

### *Next steps*

In late September, St. Louis Park residents will receive a special mailing with more information about the Highway 100 and County Road 3 Groundwater Plume Site. Until then, visit the city's website at [www.stlouispark.org/groundwater-plume](http://www.stlouispark.org/groundwater-plume) to learn more. At the EPA, a proposed rule and 60-day comment period are required before sites are finally listed on the NPL.

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