

**Contact:** Chris Westover, Environmental Health Director  
734-240-7900  
chris\_westover@monroemi.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Water Sampling Set to Begin at Whiteford Township Residences**

MONROE, Mich., April 1, 2024 – Beginning today, Monday April 1, 2024, letters will be hand delivered by staff from the Monroe County Health Department (MCHD) to homes in the area immediately adjacent to the North Branch Ottawa River (also known as Tenmile Creek moving south) from the US-23/US-223 intersection, extending near the state line to announce the intent to collect water samples from the residences. Starting Tuesday, April 2, 2024, and extending through the week, representatives from the MCHD, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) and an independent testing agency, will be in the area to collect water samples.

There is nothing that homeowners need to do for this testing. Representatives will collect a sample from an outside faucet, so the owner's presence at their home is not necessary. However, if the home does not have an outside faucet, if the outside faucet has a different water source than the drinking water well, or if the outside faucet is 'treated', other arrangements will need to be made to collect a sample from inside the home. If any of the above apply to your outside faucet, please call or email the MCHD at 734-240-7900 or [eh\\_frontdesk@monroemi.org](mailto:eh_frontdesk@monroemi.org) so other arrangements can be made to collect a sample.

"MCHD wants to inform homeowners that there will be staff, along with vehicles, in this area throughout the week to do this collection. We continue to work with Whiteford Township Officials to get the testing information to residents promptly," said Chris Westover, Environmental Health Director for MCHD.

If a homeowner objects to the staff collecting a water sample on their property, they are encouraged to call or email the MCHD at 734-240-7900 or [eh\\_frontdesk@monroemi.org](mailto:eh_frontdesk@monroemi.org) as soon as possible.

MCHD will provide sample results to the homeowners once they are received. It is expected that the results will be available in no more than three days unless an unforeseen circumstance causes a delay. The MCHD, along with the Michigan Departments of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) and Health and Human Services (HHS), will make a determination as sample results are received if the sampling locations are to be expanded.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact the Environmental Health Division at 734-240-7900 or [eh\\_frontdesk@monroemi.org](mailto:eh_frontdesk@monroemi.org).

The Monroe County Health Department protects the public through health promotion, disease prevention, and preservation of the environment. Local public health information and updates are available at [healthymonroecounty.com](http://healthymonroecounty.com) and on social media (@MCHDMichigan).

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