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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Water Sampling Available to All Whiteford Township Residences**

MONROE, Mich., April 4, 2024 – The Monroe County Health Department (MCHD), the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and Pilot Travel Centers LLC (Pilot) are continuing to respond to the diesel fuel leak at the intersection of US-23/US-223.

Through a partnership with the entities listed above, the MCHD is announcing that ALL residents of Whiteford Township who get their water from a private residential well are eligible to have their water sampled free of charge.

Beginning Friday, April 5, at 1 p.m., Whiteford Township residents can call MDHHS at 844-934-1315 to schedule an appointment for water sampling. Appointments can be made Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Friday, April 12. Water sampling in the expanded area will begin Friday, April 5.

When calling to schedule an appointment, residents will be asked to provide contact information (name, address, phone number and email address) and answer a series of questions about any water treatment and/or water filtration systems that the residence may have.

Depending on a home's water treatment system, the sample may be collected from an outside faucet under the following conditions:

- a. There is no water treatment and/or water filtration; and
- b. The outside faucet is coming from the same source as the well.

In these cases, the owner's presence at their home is not necessary.

However, if any water treatment is connected to the home's water supply, then other arrangements will need to be made to collect a sample from inside the home. This will be done during the scheduling process. Owners will also be asked to grant sampling teams approval to access their property.

The first round of water sampling results has been provided and are considered 'clean' or non-detect. "The initial sampling results from the high priority areas are encouraging, meaning that we are not seeing any contaminants in drinking water. That being said, we understand the health and safety concerns for those residents outside of the initial sampling area. With Pilot support, a plan is in place to expand water sampling to include any resident of Whiteford Township who wants their private residential well water tested," said Chris Westover, Environmental Health Director for MCHD.

If you have any questions about water sampling, please call MDHHS at 844-934-1315.

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).