

“SCS Local Matters Report”

Week of May 16-20, 2005

“The PCB Investigation Update” leads the news for this week. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are back in town! Working from a command post at City Hall, the agencies have started groundwork to find the source of the ongoing PCB contamination in the 10 Mile Drainage District Lange/Revere Canals.

Work crews along Harper and Bon Brae were sited using a Geo-Probe machine to drill 2-inch holes, 16 feet into the ground. They will extract sediment samples that will be used to conduct tests. EPA officials plan to test the area along the Ten Mile Drain until the source of the contamination is found. Test results are expected in about a week.

Input from long-time residents of the City indicate that transformers may have been stored in a building in the area or a former tool-and-die place may have stored PCBs. EPA officials hope that the additional soil samples will pinpoint the source.

Data already collected to date suggests that the PCBs are not coming into contact with the general public and do not involve a public health threat.

“PCB Investigation Update” for the week of June 6:

Each week we bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange and Revere canals.

The EPA and MDEQ installed a silt curtain just outside the Ten Mile Drain. It will catch and trap anything along the surface of the water. Geo-Probing for sediment samples is done. And we are waiting for the results so analysis and future planning can take place.

The EPA also tested many of the areas pointed out by residents as potential problems including spots in the BP parking lot, Olsons’ parking lot, the open drain that ran through many of the backyards and three residential sump pumps.

On Thursday, June 2, U. S. Congressman Sander Levin and several St. Clair Shores elected officials will tour the tested area. Once we receive an analysis of the results and a preliminary plan of action is formulated, the EPA, MDEQ, County and City officials will meet to map out the operational plan for elimination of the pcbs in the Ten Mile Drain area.

Remember that data already collected to date suggests that the PCBs are not coming into contact with the general public and do not involve a public health threat.

June 14, 2005

“PCB Investigation Update”...

Each week we bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange and Revere canals.

The EPA has completed the geo-probing for sediment samples and sent them to the lab for analysis. And the City is waiting for the results from the EPA so a plan can be established to move this project forward. A silt curtain just outside the Ten Mile Drain has also been installed to catch and trap anything along the surface of the water.

Remember that data already collected to date suggests that the PCBs are not coming into contact with the general public and do not involve a public health threat.

“PCB Investigation Update”...week of June 30, 2005:

Each week we bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange and Revere canals.

The City is in a “holding pattern” waiting for a report on the *full* results of the geo-probe samples taken in the 10 Mile Drainage District.

Although results from a small number of samples were completed with a 7 day turn around, all tests must be validated before the EPA to make an accurate assessment of the problem.

EPA representative Jeff Kimble indicated that the invalidated results he has seen so far show no health concerns for residential back yards or tested sump pumps. The complete validated results should be available within the next two to three weeks.

“PCB Investigation Update”...week of July 11, 2005:

Each week we bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange and Revere canals.

The City is in a “holding pattern” waiting for a report on the *full* results of the geo-probe samples taken in the 10 Mile Drainage District.

Although results from a small number of samples were completed with a 7 day turn around, all tests must be validated before the EPA to make an accurate assessment of the problem.

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“PCB Investigation Update”...

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange and Revere canals.

On July 18 th, Environmental Protection Agency representative Jeff Kimble reported to the City that the results from “test sets” of the Geo-probe samples taken from the 10 Mile Drainage District had been validated. Next week, officials from the EPA and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) will meet to discuss the results and map out a course of action.

Once a remedial plan is identified, the City will hold a town hall meeting to discuss the course of action and timelines with concerned residents. Watch SCSTV for the location of the public meeting, date and time.

Please, remember that data already collected to date suggests that the PCBs are not coming into contact with the general public and do not involve a public health threat.

More information about the PCB investigation can be found www.scsmi.net

“PCB Investigation Update”...

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange and Revere canals.

The City received a telephone call from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) requesting our participation in a meeting with County, EPA and MDEQ representatives on Thursday, August 11. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the results of the Geo-probe sampling and work on an action plan for the elimination of the PCBs in 10 Mile Drainage District.

The City plans to hold a town meeting to discuss the results and the action plan when both are available. Stayed tuned to “SCS Local Matters” for the date and time. Residents are reminded not to fish, swim or drink water from the Lange/Revere canals. This is only a precautionary measure. The data collected so far suggests that the PCBs are not coming into contact with the general public and do not involve a public health threat.

“PCB Investigation Update”...8/9/2005

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange and Revere canals.

As you know, at the end of May the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the EPA used Geo-Probes to pull soil samples from the 10 Mile Drain. The samples came from 15 feet beneath the surface. The EPA has now informed the City that the test results are completed and validated. Representatives from the MDEQ, the EPA as well as City and County officials will meet on Thursday, August 11 to discuss the findings and create an action plan.

The City will hold a town hall meeting with residents to discuss the results and the action plan when both are available. Stayed tuned to “SCS Local Matters” for the date and time.

Residents are reminded not to fish, swim or drink water from the Lange/Revere canals. This is only a precautionary measure. The data collected so far suggests that the PCBS are not coming into contact with the general public and do not involve a public health threat.

PCB INVESTIGATION UPDATE FOR 8/19/2005:

Today's top story is good news about the PCB investigation in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange/Revere Canals. After a \$7 million cleanup and a four month probe, the EPA and the MDEQ have pinpointed the source of the PCBs contaminating the storm drain and the two canals. Findings from the Geo-Probe samples taken in and around the drainage district show that the contamination is concentrated in an underground area at Harper and Bon Brae.

EPA representative Jeff Kimble noted that the highest levels of PCBs were found in a utility corridor that was excavated years ago to put in sewers and utility lines. The data suggests that the contamination lies from 9 to 15 feet underground. Officials indicated that the PCBs may have been in the ground for 20 years or more. But there are no new PCBs entering the site. In fact, testing on three residential sump pumps shows little or no PCBs present in the system.

The EPA, the MDEQ and Westin Solutions will present a removal plan to City, County, state and federal officials by October 1, 2005. The City will hold a town meeting with residents to discuss the results and the action plan when both are available. Stay tuned to "SCS Local Matters" for the date and time.

Residents are reminded not to eat the fish, swim or drink water from the Lange/Revere canals. This is only a precautionary measure. The validated test results suggest that the PCBs are NOT coming into contact with the general public and do NOT involve a public health threat.

And now it's time for our "PCB Investigation Update"... where we bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange and Revere canals.

EPA Project Manager Jeff Kimble and DEQ Project Manager Richard Berak issued a summary statement on the status of the PCB Investigation. Copies of the statement are available for review at the PCB Repository at the St. Clair Shores Public Library on the corner of 11 Mile Rd. and Jefferson. Residents can also view the statement by logging onto www.scsmi.net and clicking on the "PCB Investigation" line on the City's home page.

Weston Solutions, an environmental consulting agency, will create an action plan for the removal of the PCBs in the 10 Mile Drainage District and present it to EPA, MEDQ, federal, state, county and city officials by October 1, 2005.

Once a remedial plan is identified, the City will hold a town hall meeting to discuss the course of action and timelines with concerned residents. Watch the SCSTV bulletin board on Comcast Channel 5 and WideOpen West Channel 10 and "SCS Local Matters" for the location of the public meeting, date and time.

“PCB Investigation Update” (9/2/2005)...

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange and Revere canals.

A summary statement on the status of the PCB Investigation that was issued recently by the EPA and DEQ is now available for review on the City’s website. Simply log onto www.scsmi.net and click on the “PCB Investigation” line on the City’s home page. Hard copies of the statement can also be viewed at the St. Clair Shores Public Library on the corner of 11 Mile Rd. and Jefferson.

As you know, Weston Solutions, an environmental consulting agency, is in the process of writing an action plan for the removal of the PCBs in the 10 Mile Drainage District. The plan will be presented to EPA, MEDQ, federal, state, county and city officials by October 1, 2005.

Once a remedial plan is approved, the City will hold a town hall meeting to discuss the course of action and timelines with concerned residents. Watch the SCSTV bulletin board and “SCS Local Matters” shown on Comcast Channel 5 and WideOpen West Channel 10 for the location of the public meeting, date and time.

**“PCB Investigation Update” for the week of 9/09/2005:
We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange and Revere canals.**

Currently the City is in a holding pattern. Weston Solutions, the environmental consulting agency contracted by the EPA, is in the process of writing an action plan for the removal of the PCBs in the 10 Mile Drainage District. The plan will be presented to EPA, MEDQ, federal, state, county and city officials by October 1, 2005.

**All test results---including the results from the individual, residential sump pump tests-- will be available for public review when the action plan is completed.
It is my opinion as City Manager that the EPA and MDEQ are committed to solving this problem for our residents as quickly as possible.**

Once a remedial plan is approved, the City will hold a town hall meeting to discuss the course of action and timelines with concerned residents. The MDEQ, EPA, the Macomb County Health Department will be on hand to answer your questions. Watch the SCSTV bulletin board and “SCS Local Matters” shown on Comcast Channel 5 and WideOpen West Channel 10 for the location of the public meeting, date and time.

“PCB Investigation Update”...September 30, 2005

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange and Revere canals.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) confirmed that a preliminary meeting between the MDEQ and the EPA has been set for October 4. The purpose of the meeting is to review the cleanup plan created by Weston Solutions based on the data results from the Geo-Probe samples in the 10 Mile Drainage District.

At this time, one of the options under consideration includes the elimination of PCBs in the 10 Mile/Revere canal area. After the EPA and MDEQ work out the details, the City and county will review the plan, hopefully, in October.

When the remedial plan received final approval, the City will hold a town hall meeting to discuss the course of action and timelines with concerned residents. Watch the SCSTV bulletin board and “SCS Local Matters” shown on Comcast Channel 5 and WideOpen West Channel 10 for the location of the public meeting, date and time.

“PCB Investigation Update” for October 21, 2005

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and Lange and Revere canals.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invited the City and the county to a meeting on October 20 to review the cleanup plan created by Weston Solutions based on the data results from the Geo-Probe samples in the 10 Mile Drainage District.

When the remedial plan receives final approval, the City will hold a town hall meeting to discuss the course of action and timelines with concerned residents. Watch the SCSTV bulletin board and “SCS Local Matters” shown on Comcast Channel 5 and WideOpen West Channel 10 for the location of the public meeting, date and time.

“PCB Investigation Update”

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and the Lange and Revere Canals.

After months of reviewing data and weighing alternatives, the ACTION PLAN recommended by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is done!

As promised, the City will host a Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, March 1 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the Lakeview High School Auditorium at 21100 11 Mile Road, between Harper and Little Mack.

Representatives from the EPA, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), the Macomb County Health Department, and the Macomb County Public Works Office will be on hand to review the clean-up plan, discuss funding sources and answer questions from concerned residents.

Federal, State, County, and City elected officials will also be present. SCSTV will film the meeting and air it on Comcast Channel 5 and WideOpenWest Channels 10 and 18. Stayed tuned to “SCS Local Matters” or check the Community Bulletin Board for times and dates.

PCB Investigation Update 3/10/2006:

Plans for ridding PCBs from the 10 Mile Drain TOPS the news for this week. Jeff Kimble, point person for the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Michigan regional office, unveiled the plans during a Town Hall Meeting at Lakeview High School on March 1.

The EPA studied 5 alternatives for removing the PCBs. And the alternative that proved most feasible included storm sewer restoration using a liner placed inside the 10 Mile Drain to prevent PCBs from entering the pipe and limited removal of contaminated surface soil.

If needed, a new system to maintain water stability will also be installed. Kimble pointed out that officials believe that the ongoing contamination is actually filtering into the sewer through potential cracks. And the liner could correct this problem. The liner has a 10-20 year life span.

The EPA has earmarked \$1.2 million for this project and for CONTINUED study for the complete elimination of PCBs in the 10 Mile Drainage District.

Concerned residents also received assurances from The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality that their drinking water is tested twice a year and PCBs have NEVER been detected.

Hae Jin Yoon from the MDEQ also noted that the dead fish found floating in the Lange Canal in late February was NOT related to PCBs but rather associated with the effect of the extreme temperature changes we've had this winter on one species of fish.

The full EPA report, including the report by Weston Solutions and the analysis of the cleanup alternatives is available for reference in the PCB Repository in the St. Clair Shores Library. The City will also post it on the City's website as soon as the EPA makes it available in .pdf format. Stay tuned to "SCS Local Matters" for more information when this phase of the cleanup project begins.

“PCB Investigation Update” for March 24, 2006:

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and the Lange and Revere canals.

Christina Bush, Toxicologist for the State of Michigan Department of Community Health, issued a detailed response to community health concerns voiced at the March 1 Town Hall Meeting.

A hardcopy of the report is filed in the PCB repository at the St. Clair Shores Public Library at 11 Mile Road and Jefferson. It is also available on the City’s website at www.scsmi.net click on “PCB Investigation”.

Bush assures residents that any exposure people might have to the PCBs in the Ten Mile Drain area during the cleanup phase of the project would be brief and infrequent and is not expected to result in any adverse health effects.

PCB Investigation Update for April 7, 2006:

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and the Lange and Revere Canals.

Jeff Kimble, the Environmental Protection Agency's field representative assigned to the case, reports that the EPA HAS RECEIVED quotes on the liner that will be used to seal cracks in the existing sewer pipe. It is believed that the ongoing PCB contamination is filtering into the sewer through these cracks. The liner would correct the problem

The EPA plans to select a contractor by the end of the week. Hopefully, the City, the County and the EPA will meet to work out the final details before the end of the month. Watch the SCSTV Comcast Channel 5 and WideOpenWest Channel 10 for future developments.

PCB Investigation Update: 5/5/2006

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and the Lange and Revere Canals. Starting this month, the EPA will plug, wash out and line the 10 Mile drain pipe to prevent PCBs from migrating into the canals. Four additional sites where the PCBs were detected closer to the surface will also be excavated 2' down, a clay liner installed, soil and grass seed planted. Some residents in the area will be asked to sign access agreement so the EPA can perform the work.

The EPA is hopeful that this phase of the project can be completed by the end of May.

Stay tuned to SCSTV Comcast Channels 5 and 12 and WideOpenWest Channels 10 and 18 for future updates and possible road or lane closures.

PCB INVESTIGATION UPDATE for May 12, 2006:

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and the Lange and Revere Canals.

This week the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality took additional soil samples around 4 surface ground sites near Bon Brae and Harper. These areas are scheduled to have 2' of contaminated soil removed, lined with clay and replanted with seed. The purpose of the sampling is to determine the width of remediation.

A pre-construction meeting with the General Contractor in charge of lining the 10 Mile Drain pipe, representatives from the EPA, the MDEQ, the Macomb County Public Works office and the City is planned for Friday, May 19.

The EPA hopes to complete this phase of the project by the end of the month. Stay tuned to this station for future updates and possible road or lane closures.

PCB INVESTIGATION UPDATE for 5/26/2006:

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and the Lange and Revere Canals.

The City met with officials from the EPA, MDEQ, and the Macomb County Public Works Office on Friday, May 19 to discuss plans for the PCB mitigation. Work has been postponed until after the Memorial Day holiday due to the May rains and the holiday weekend.

The EPA will notify the residents who will have their property excavated to remove the PCBs closer to the surface. The plan includes removing about 2 feet of dirt, installing a clay liner, backfilling with soil and planting grass. Lanzo Lining has been selected to inspect, clean, repair and install the cured-in-place pipe in the 10 Mile Drain. Lanzo will submit their work plan to the County and the City shortly.

Residents and business owners who have questions, can contact the EPA's representative Jeff Kimble at 734-740-9013 or the City Manager's Office at 447-3311.

Environmental workers began excavating a handful of backyards between Bon Brae and Bon Heur and along Lakeland on Friday to clean up the surface PCBs found in the neighborhood.

The EPA will dig 2 feet deep in about 25 high level contamination spots to eliminate any contact threats. The \$1.2 million cleanup will also include soil removal, testing and transport to hazardous waste landfills. The parking lot of the City's DPW Complex is being used as a testing site.

Once the work is completed, the EPA will fill the holes in resident's backyards and re-seed the grass. A cured-in-place epoxy liner will also be installed in the sewers near the 10 Mile drain to prevent the PCBs from leeching into the pipe.

The work is expected to be completed within a month and a half. Workers with the EPA and the MDEQ have set up a telephone line for residents to call if they have questions about the excavation. The number is 777-0369.

Environmental workers continue the residential backyard excavations between Bon Brae and Bon Heur. EPA On-Site Coordinator Jeff Kimble reports that work is slow because smaller equipment than normal is being used to minimize residential property damage.

The EPA is digging 2 feet deep in about 25 high level contamination spots to eliminate any contact threats. The \$1.2 million cleanup will also include soil removal, testing and transport to hazardous waste landfills.

Once the work is completed, the EPA will fill the holes in resident's backyards and re-seed the grass. The cured-in-place epoxy liner is current being manufactured and will be installed in the sewers near the 10 Mile drain to prevent the PCBs from leeching into the pipe. The final work plan is almost complete.

The EPA estimates that the work should be completed within a month and a half. If residents have questions or concerns, please call the EPA Hotline number at 777-0369.

PCB INVESTIGATION UPDATE for 6/30/2006:

Progress continues on the PCB Cleanup efforts. The EPA reports that 95% of the low level PCBs have been removed from residential and commercial properties between Bon Brae and Bon Heur. Weather permitting, the remainder of the soil removal and restoration will be completed the first week in July.

Next, the 10 Mile Drain pipe will be inspected for debris, roots, damage and any other anomalies. The pipe will then be jet-cleaned thoroughly and prepared for installation of the cured-in-place liner.

The EPA has also completed the Work Plan for the Phase II PCB Cleanup. A copy is available for resident's review in the Public Library at 11 Mile and Jefferson or online at www.scsmi.net.

The EPA estimates that the work should be completed by the first week of August. If residents have questions or concerns, please call the EPA Hotline number at 777-0369.

PCB INVESTIGATION UPDATE FOR JULY 7, 2006:

This word just in from the EPA...Site Coordinator Jeff Kimble reports that only one site on Lakeland is undergoing soil and PCB excavation. In addition, the soil on the residential and commercial properties between Bon Brae and Bon Heur has been filled at all other excavation sites. And hydro-seeding is schedule for next week.

Cleaning of the 10 Mile Drain begins on Monday, July 10th and the installation of the cured-in-place liner into the pipe will follow soon after. The EPA estimates that the total time for completion of this work is three weeks...weather permitting.

Any resident interested in viewing the Work Plan for the Phase II PCB Cleanup can find a copy in the Public Library at 11 Mile and Jefferson or online at www.scsmi.net. If you have questions or concerns, please call the EPA Hotline number at 777-0369.

PCB INVESTIGATION UPDATE for July 14, 2006:

Progress continues in the Phase II PCB Cleanup.

This week the EPA is setting up the equipment needed to clean out the debris and roots from the 10 Mile Drain pipe. Once this is done, the cured-in-place liner will be installed. So far, the weather has cooperated and the project is on schedule.

However, in the event of a major rainfall, workers will pull the plugs in the drain pipe so flooding will not occur. If this happens, the project may be delayed. The next step under discussion is the insertion of wells to monitor the effectiveness of the liner in preventing the PCBS from entering the 10 Mile Drain.

The EPA Work Plan for the Phase II PCB Cleanup is available in the Public Library at 11 Mile and Jefferson or online at www.scsmi.net for public review. If you have questions or concerns, please call the EPA Hotline number at 777-0369 or the City Manager's Office at 447-3311.

PCB INVESTIGATION UPDATE 8/11/06:

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and the Lange and Revere Canals.

Residents in the 10 Mile Drainage District can heave a collective sigh of relief as the EPA completes the final leg of the Phase II Cleanup Project. The installation of the 300-foot cured-in-place liner inside the 10 Mile Drain is done. EPA workers are now sealing the catch basins that needed to be enlarged to accommodate the installation of the liner.

Since the recent rains washed away some of the hydro seeding in the residential and commercial areas on Bon Brae and Bon Huer, the EPA will do it again. Next step is to put a monitoring system in place that will determine whether the drainage pipe is being contaminated by a new PCB invasion or whether the cured-in-place liner is working.

If you have questions or concerns, please call the EPA Hotline number at 777-0369 or the City Manager's Office at 447-3311.

PCB INVESTIGATION UPDATE for 8/18/2006:

We bring you the latest developments in the ongoing investigation and elimination of the PCBs found in the 10 Mile Drainage District and the Lange and Revere Canals.

The EPA reports that Phase II of the PCB Cleanup is almost done. The cured-in-place liner is installed in the 10 Mile Drain. The five catch basins opened to aid the installation of the liner are sealed tight. The hydro-seeding on residential and commercial property between Bon Brae and Bon Huer is done and will be watered periodically.

The EPA, MDEQ, the County and the City are currently investigating monitoring plans to make sure that the steps taken to prevent the PCBs from entering the 10 Mile Drain are indeed working. A meeting to review the recommended monitoring plan will take place in September. Stay tuned to “SCS Local Matters” for dates and times.