

**Michigan PFAS Action Response Team
Continuity of Operations Plan for Residential Well Sampling
Addendum, Dated October 26, 2020**

Purpose of Addendum

The purpose of this addendum to the *Michigan PFAS Action Response Team Continuity of Operations Plan for Residential Well Sampling* is to update guidance for residential well sampling operations so as not to conflict with any State and local mandates, including but not limited to the current Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' Epidemic Order (Gathering Prohibition and Face Covering Order), Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) and Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (MIOSHA) Emergency Rules 10-14-20 (Coronavirus Disease 2019), and Executive Directive 2020-08. As State and local mandates are updated, MPART will continue to operate in a manner compliant with such doctrine. Additionally, this addendum was written to incorporate updated advice from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and to support MPART's obligation to identify and reduce exposures to PFAS contamination in private well water and other contaminant pathways. This is the best guidance at the point-in-time issued. MPART will continue to evaluate this guidance to ensure it remains consistent with all relevant mandates and health recommendations as Michigan continues efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Residential Well Sampling Protocol

The following protocol for reducing risk when sampling a residential well is mostly unchanged from the original *MPART Continuity of Operations Plan for Residential Well Sampling*. At the time of the residential sampling visit, whether indoors or outdoors, the following protocol should be followed by MPART staff:

- Prior to commencing field work for the day, complete a self-health assessment by taking your temperature and asking yourself the following three questions. If you have a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher—or answer “yes” to any of the three questions—you may not conduct field work that day. Results of this self-health assessment must be documented.
 - ✓ Are you currently under evaluation for COVID-19 or have you been instructed to self-quarantine or isolate?
 - ✓ Have you had contact with any Persons Under Investigation for COVID-19 within the last 14 days, OR with anyone known to have COVID-19?
 - ✓ Do you have any symptoms of a respiratory infection (e.g., new cough, sore throat, fever, unexplained shortness of breath, difficulty breathing or sudden loss of taste or smell) or gastrointestinal illness (e.g., nausea, vomiting, diarrhea)?
- Prior to the resident opening the door, or at a minimum distance of six feet from the resident, the resident should be asked the above three health screening questions pertaining to all members of their household. If the resident can answer “no” to all three questions, and you continue to attest to “no” to all three questions, it is allowable for the residential sampling to occur.

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- If the resident cannot answer “no” to all three health screening questions pertaining to all members of their household, an in-home sampling may not occur. However, sampling from a spigot located outside of the residence may proceed if: 1) the resident agrees, and 2) the sampling team is comfortable and able to avoid contact with anyone who responded yes to any of the screening questions.
- During the visit, all MPART staff must wear a fabric or disposable mask over mouth and nose, new disposable gloves and, if sampling indoors, new shoe covers. Mask should be put on before leaving your vehicle, and not removed until you are back in your vehicle.
- Refrain from touching your face.
- Using an appropriate disinfectant, ensure all equipment is cleaned thoroughly before and after each visit, including testing equipment, coolers and/or sampling buckets, administrative tools, laptops, cellular phones, mobile devices, and other items.
- Clean surfaces that you plan to touch or have touched with a disinfecting wipe.
- Wash hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water before and after each visit. If this is not feasible, take hand sanitizer containing at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol with you and use it in lieu of aforementioned handwashing.
- After the visit, dispose of all waste items (disposable mask, gloves, booties, and disinfecting wipes) in a double-lined plastic bag. Final disposal of this waste will be in an appropriate solid waste receptacle.
- Maintain ‘social distance’ (6 feet) from those you visit.
- Avoid typical handshakes and other welcome and goodbye behavior which require person to person contact.
- If you must cough or sneeze, do not remove your mask to do so. Without removing your mask, cough, or sneeze into your upper sleeve.
- Immediately report back to your manager if you feel there has been an exposure.

If, at any point before or during the on-site or in-home visit, the resident or the field staff feels the visit should be terminated based on COVID-19 concerns, the field staff shall leave the premises and document the issue in the field notes.

Implementation of MIOSHA Emergency Rules 10-14-20 (COVID-19)

MIOSHA Emergency Rules 10-14-20 allow for in-home services given precautions are taken to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Such precautions prescribed by the MIOSHA Emergency Rules 10-14-20 and followed by MPART include:

- Daily health screening of all staff performing in-home or on-site visits prior to arriving at the job site.
- Asking the resident health screening questions at the time of scheduling, and/or at the time of the home visit. If anyone inside of the home does not pass the screening, an in-

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home visit must be rescheduled.

- Maintain accurate appointment record, including date and time of service, name of client, and contact information, to aid in contact tracing.

In addition to the precautions prescribed by MIOSHA Emergency Rules 10-14-20, MPART will take other precautions as described herein.

- **Location of Water Sampling:** As previously mandated, sampling will be preferentially done at an outside spigot to remove the need for an MPART employee to enter a place of residence. If this is not feasible, or if it is desirable that the sample be collected from the drinking water tap or other interior plumbing locations, the MPART employee may enter a place of residence while strictly adhering to all COVID-19 precautions listed at the beginning of this addendum.
- **Scheduling of Sampling:** In order to reduce the inherent risk of a home visit, attempts will be made to preschedule all sampling. The first, and most protective, method used will be scheduling the home visit over the phone, at which time the health screening questions may be asked of the resident. Additionally, the purpose of the sampling and request to sample will be explained as directed in the current *MPART Continuity of Operations Plan for Residential Well Sampling* dated May 21, 2020. If there is no phone contact information for an individual, or if an individual was not able to be reached via phone after a reasonable number of attempts, a door hanger may be used at the place of residence. This door hanger should instruct the resident to call an MPART agent or contractor for scheduling an at-home visit.
- **Impromptu Home Visits:** If an individual cannot be reached by phone or the use of door hangers, impromptu door knocking to request sampling is allowed. If door knocking is used, the MPART staff conducting the door knocking must wear a mask at all times and retreat to at least six feet of distance after knocking. At this point, the purpose of the sampling and request to sample will be explained as directed in the current *MPART Continuity of Operations Plan for Residential Well Sampling*. If the resident agrees to the sampling of their well, the MPART staff will ask the COVID-19 health screening questions of the resident, attest to their own health through the completion of the same set of questions, and explain all COVID-19 precautions they will be taking during the sampling. If the resident passes the health screening, the sampling may continue.

The guidance provided herein, dated October 26, 2020, will remain in effect and paramount until the threat of COVID-19 transmission has been moderated.

Required Training

State employees must complete the training module **COVID-19: Keeping You Safe at Work**, in the State of Michigan Learning Center

<https://stateofmichiganlearningcenter.csod.com/client/stateofmichiganlearningcenter/default.aspx>