

Shutesbury Board of Health
Emergency Meeting
May 28, 2021, 7 pm
Virtual meeting

Present: Norene Pease, chair; Catherine Hilton, clerk; Garrett Simonsen, Al Werner, board members.

The board convened on an emergency basis to discuss an appropriate response to news received today from DEP of PFAS in two wells in different neighborhoods, the area around the Fire Station and the area around the junction of Wendell and Locks Pond Roads. Both neighborhoods were flagged by DEP on their map as potential PFAS sites. It was agreed that the public should be notified as quickly as possible.

The board agreed to send out a town-wide message explaining that PFAS had been found and the general location of these findings, as well as two more focused messages to the residents of the affected neighborhoods. A map of parcels was consulted and a fairly large circle drawn in each of the two areas. Messages will be sent to the residents within these circles by email, private message on NDS, or US mail. This part can't happen immediately as the homeowners must be identified and their contact information found.

Becky Torres had already called some of the most affected neighbors in the Fire Station neighborhood. The messages from the Board of Health were prioritized thus: first the town-wide message, to go out immediately. The focused electronic messages would go first to Locks Pond/Wendell Roads, where there has been no notification from the town, and then to the Fire Station neighborhood. Ideally these would go out on Saturday. US Mail messages will be sent to go out Tuesday as Monday is a holiday and there isn't time to get them out Saturday morning.

Meeting adjourned about 8:10