

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.