

Willow Street Site Information

- The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has completed the Willow Street Soil Gas Study.
- DENR was authorized to access eight of the ten properties that we wished to test.
- DENR successfully tested seven of those eight properties.
- Soil gas samples were unable to be successfully collected during two attempts from one of the eight properties due to the tightness/clay nature of the soils.
- At two of the tested properties, the concentrations of the volatile organic compounds (VOCs, including trichloroethylene, or TCE, and tetrachloroethylene, or PCE) detected are **above** United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and DENR acceptable screening limits.
- TCE and PCE are chlorinated solvents and are considered volatile organic compounds. When they are present in groundwater, related soil vapor can travel through spaces in soil beneath structures. If levels of the chlorinated solvents are high enough, the vapor can enter the home and affect the health of people living in the homes.
- As a result, further evaluation of the **potential** for VOC vapor intrusion is necessary.
- For these two properties, it is important that crawlspace air be sampled and analyzed to assess whether groundwater concentrations of VOCs have the **potential** to cause indoor air contamination.
- At two other properties, the concentrations of the VOCs detected are **within yet approaching** USEPA and DENR acceptable screening limits.
- Therefore, to be conservative, DENR intends to collect a crawlspace air sample and a subslab air sample at these two other properties.
- The distinction between crawlspace and subslab air samples is based solely on the type of construction of the residence. Residences without a crawlspace are tested via subslab, which consists of sampling through a small port drilled through concrete slab floors.
- At the remaining three properties, the concentrations of the VOCs detected in soil gas samples are **within and considerably below** USEPA and DENR acceptable screening limits and our soil gas study is completed- DENR does not intend to collect additional samples.
- In January, pending authorization to access the properties, DENR will collect crawlspace and subslab samples from six properties as follows:
 - two properties where soil gas VOC concentrations were above screening levels

- two properties where concentrations were within yet approaching screening levels
- one property where we were unable to collect a soil gas sample during two attempts
- one property where we didn't receive authorization to access the property for the soil gas study (the property is located next door to a property where soil gas concentrations were above screening levels)
- This second phase of DENR's investigation will be known as the Willow Street Crawlspace and Subslab Study.
- DENR's continued investigation is proceeding in a precise stepwise fashion to assess whether groundwater contamination has the **potential** to cause indoor air contamination.
- **IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT RESIDENTS ARE DRINKING MUNICIPAL WATER, NOT THE GROUNDWATER REFERENCED IN THIS INFORMATION PAGE.**