



August 10, 2015

Playmates Childcare & Preschool, Inc.  
980 Willard Drive  
Green Bay, WI 54304

Subject: PCB Soil Sampling Results-No Further Action Required

Dear Parents and Staff,

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Department of Health Services (DHS) recently completed soil sampling work at the Playmates Childcare & Preschool property, located at 980 Willard Drive, in Ashwaubenon. The soil was analyzed to determine whether polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were present.

DNR requested and received permission to sample soil on this property because low levels of PCBs have been identified in soil on nearby properties. Several soil samples were collected at seven different locations on the Playmates Childcare & Preschool property.

Laboratory analysis of the DNR and DHS samples indicate that the soil on the Playmates Childcare & Preschool property meets all state health and environmental standards. No further action is necessary.

In only one of the samples were PCBs detected, but the concentration was nearly too low to measure. This trace concentration is well below the state's health warning standard, and is located deep in the ground and not accessible to children.

## Background

In the fall of 2012, PCBs were identified in soil samples collected from the Ashwaubenon High School football field (Goelz Field) prior to reconstruction of the field. Historical research found that PCBs had been deposited prior to 1964 in a sand and gravel borrow pit owned by the former Town of Ashwaubenon, before becoming the Village of Ashwaubenon.

Forty acres of land, including the now filled-in borrow pit, was sold by the town to the Ashwaubenon School District in 1964. The Ashwaubenon High School and Park View Middle School were constructed on the property soon afterwards.

In a series of media releases between January and April 2013, the School District notified staff and students' parents of the PCB situation. Further environmental investigation has identified PCBs in samples collected from the athletic practice fields adjacent to the High School and Middle Schools and from a few spots in Klipstine Park. The Ashview Terrace property has also been impacted to some degree.

PCBs are chemical compounds that were manufactured in the United States from 1929 until 1979, when they were banned due to public and wildlife health concerns. They have a range of toxicity and vary in consistency from thin, light-colored liquids to yellow or black waxy solids. PCBs were once used in hundreds of industrial and commercial products and processes.

Once in the environment, PCBs do not readily break down and therefore can remain for long periods. A primary source of human exposure to PCBs is from eating fish taken from contaminated waterways. DNR and DHS work to prevent direct contact with PCBs, as well as the accumulation of PCBs in food. More information on PCBs and their impact on public health can be found at: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/environmental/pcb-fish.htm>.

### **Next Steps**

DNR and DHS will continue to work with the Village, the School District, and affected property owners to address PCB contamination in this area. At this time, no cleanup or other related activities are necessary at the Playmates Childcare & Preschool property.

If you have questions about this matter, please contact either:

- Robert Klauk, DNR, 920-662-5164, [Robert.Klauk@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Robert.Klauk@wisconsin.gov), or
- Robert Thiboldeaux, DHS, 608-267-6844, [robert.thiboldeaux@wisconsin.gov](mailto:robert.thiboldeaux@wisconsin.gov).

Sincerely,



Robert H. Klauk  
Hydrogeologist  
Remediation & Redevelopment Program

## Klauk, Robert H - DNR

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**From:** Klauk, Robert H - DNR  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 12:18 PM  
**To:** MaryJaneSchaetz4@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Tenant Notification Letters  
**Attachments:** 8-10-15\_ASH\_TER\_APT\_TENANT\_LTR.pdf; 8-20-15\_AGENDA.pdf

Mary Jane,

The attached letter and agenda will be mailed to all tenants today notifying them of the PCB contamination at the Ashview Terrace Apartments and the scheduled meeting next week to discuss the situation with them. Mr. Perry has been sent a copy of the letter as well. You may want to inform him of the letter before he receives it in the mail. Also, a second letter is being sent to Mr. Perry today, informing him we are currently pursuing the party we think is responsible for placing the contamination on the property and what Mr. Perry's current responsibilities are. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Bob

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Robert Klauk  
Hydrogeologist – Remediation & Redevelopment/AWaRe  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
2984 Shawano Avenue, Green Bay 54313  
Phone: 920-662-5164  
[Robert.Klauk@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Robert.Klauk@wisconsin.gov)



[dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)





August 10, 2015

Tenants  
Ashview Terrace Apartments  
988-1020 Willard Drive  
Green Bay, WI 54304

Subject: Notice of PCB Soil Contamination Discovered at Ashview Terrace Apartments

Dear Tenants,

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Department of Health Services (DHS) conducted soil sampling work on the Ashview Terrace Apartment property, located at 988-1020 Willard Drive, in Ashwaubenon. The soil was analyzed to determine whether polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are present.

Six soil samples were collected from three locations on the property and analyzed for PCBs. PCB contamination was detected in some deeper soil samples collected from the property; however, there is **no immediate health hazard** because the PCB contaminated soil is not in the surface areas and is covered by buildings, pavement and landscaping. Some of those soil samples exceed state and federal safety standards for long-term exposure at those deeper locations and will need to be addressed.

The DNR requested and received permission to sample soil on this property because PCBs have been identified in soil on the Ashwaubenon High School/Parkview Middle School and Klipstine Park properties and historical property records suggested that historical disposal took place at a borrow pit formerly located at the Ashview Terrace Apartment property.

PCBs are synthetic oils that once had several industrial uses due to their stability at high temperatures. By the 1970s, it was found that PCBs were harmful to wildlife and people, and their use was banned. Today, PCBs remain in the environment. Where PCBs are found, efforts are made to remove these chemicals and thereby prevent their accumulation in food. The main source of people's exposure to PCBs is from eating fish taken from waterways contaminated with PCBs.

#### Next Steps

The DNR and DHS will work with the responsible party (ies) to address PCB contamination on the property. Informational meetings for residents are scheduled for 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm in the Ashwaubenon High School library on Thursday, August 20, 2015. A copy of the agenda is included with this letter.

If you have questions about this matter, please contact either:

- Robert Klauk, DNR, 920-662-5164, [robert.klauk@wisconsin.gov](mailto:robert.klauk@wisconsin.gov), or
- Robert Thiboldeaux, DHS, 608-267-6844, [robert.thiboldeaux@wisconsin.gov](mailto:robert.thiboldeaux@wisconsin.gov).

Sincerely,

Robert Klauk  
Hydrogeologist  
Remediation & Redevelopment Program

Attachment: Agenda – Tenant Informational Meetings

cc: James Zellmer – DNR, Northeast Region  
Robert Thiboldeaux - DHS



August 20, 2015

12:00 PM & 6:00 PM



Ashwaubenon High School Library

Tenant & Staff Informational Meetings

WDNR Site Name: Ashview Terrace Apartments

WDNR BRRTS # 02-05-564043

### Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Brief history of the Ashview Terrace Apartments property & soil testing
- Interpretation of results from the soil testing (what the data means for you)
- Planned next steps by DNR
- Questions

Please contact any of the individuals below with follow-up questions after the informational meeting:

**Robert Klauk**

Project Manager – Hydrogeologist  
DNR

2984 Shawano Avenue  
Green Bay, WI 54313  
920-662-5164

[Robert.Klauk@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Robert.Klauk@wisconsin.gov)

**Robert Thiboldeaux**

Senior Toxicologist  
DHS

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Madison, WI 53701  
608-267-6844

[robert.thiboldeaux@wisconsin.gov](mailto:robert.thiboldeaux@wisconsin.gov)

**James Zellmer**

Northeast Region Program Manager  
DNR

2984 Shawano Ave  
Green Bay, WI 54313-6727  
920-662-5120

**Rob Gollman**

Brown County Health Department  
610 S. Broadway St., Rm. 201  
Green Bay, WI 54305  
920-448-6400