

# Additional Groundwater Sampling

Additional groundwater sampling is being done at RMA to evaluate three chemicals that the EPA classifies as among a group of “emerging contaminants” that are being looked at more broadly and warrant further study. (For more information on emerging contaminants, visit the EPA online at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).)

As part of its ongoing commitment to ensure the environmental cleanup remains fully protective of human health and the environment, the Army continually evaluates the site in light of new environmental standards and advances in lab technologies that allow contaminants to be detected at much lower levels than were previously possible. In partnership with the regulatory agencies, the Army is analyzing RMA groundwater for the following chemicals:

## PFAS

PFAS, which is an abbreviation for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, are used in a wide range of common products, such as Teflon, fire-fighting foam and carpeting. There is no specific historical record of the use or disposal of PFAS at RMA, but fire-fighting foam was employed in isolated circumstances.

### Groundwater Sampling Results:

Groundwater sampling conducted at RMA in 2017 and 2018 showed that PFAS were present in one well at levels above the EPA Health Advisory level. That well is located in the center of the site, and groundwater flowing from that area is captured and treated twice before it migrates off site.

Next Steps: To corroborate those results and confirm there are no significant sources of PFAS contamination at RMA, the Army will collect additional groundwater samples in 2019 and continue to sample influent and effluent water at the groundwater treatment facilities.

***The Army treats PFAS effectively through its existing groundwater treatment systems.***

## NDPA

NDPA, which stands for n-Nitrosodi-n-propylamine, is an organic chemical that is created as a bi-product during the production of some herbicides.

### Groundwater Sampling Results:

Groundwater sampling conducted at RMA in 2017 and 2018 shows that NDPA is present at levels above the Colorado standard in similar areas as other RMA contaminants.

Next Steps: The Army has added NDPA to the list of groundwater contaminants it routinely monitors and continues to treat groundwater to environmental standards before it leaves the site.

***The Army treats NDPA effectively through its existing groundwater treatment systems.***

## 1,4 Dioxane

1,4-dioxane is a solvent used in manufacturing chemicals. It is also found as a trace contaminant in chemicals found in cosmetics, detergents, shampoos and other consumer products.

Groundwater Sampling Results: The Army conducted groundwater sampling for 1,4-dioxane at RMA from 2012 to 2015 and again in 2017 and 2018 and used the data to characterize source areas where the chemical was present above the standards.

Next Steps: The Army has added 1,4-dioxane to the list of groundwater contaminants it monitors.

In cooperation with the regulatory agencies, the Army is also evaluating a range of options for addressing 1,4-dioxane, including installing an additional process to treat groundwater to the standard.

***The Army has paid to connect residents to treated municipal water supplies or installed new, deeper wells, so residents are not using RMA-affected groundwater for their drinking water.***