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NSB KINGS BAY  
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NEWSPAPER ARTICLE "ATTEND HEARING ON CONTAMINATION" NSB KINGS BAY GA  
10/24/1992  
SOUTHEAST GEORGIAN

0247

# Plume

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Samples, Mr. Cater said.

Samples initially will be taken in the streets and rights of way to be less disruptive to the neighborhood, he said.

Mr. Cater eased residents' concerns about tearing up their yards by explaining that a landscaper will come in behind the truck and repair any damage the sampling may have caused.

The second phase of testing is to begin Oct. 28 and will involve the testing of private wells.

Captain Len Scullion, Naval Submarine Base Kings-Bay Public Works officer, said many residents not located within the target area have approached the Navy to test their wells anyway.

He said the Navy intends to try to test every well within the target area, which is currently 21 wells, as well as those as requested by other residents, which is currently 31 wells. The Navy will be testing residents' well water at no charge.

The discovery of vinyl chloride is not unusual because laws requiring the monitoring of wastes placed in landfills have only recently been implemented.

Testing also will be conducted at Porcupine Lake. The Navy has not determined whether the lake is contaminated or whether eating fish from the lake would be harmful if it is contaminated.

They have however, acknowledged that plants such as tomato plants watered with contaminated water would not be harmful to their health if eaten.

Crooked River Plantation residents receive their drinking water from St. Marys Water Department which comes from wells as deep as 800 feet.

Residents who have shallow wells in the neighborhood generally use them for lawn watering and recreation, such as filling swimming pools.

Residents were asked to stop using private well water at the last public hearing in September to keep the "plume" of contamination from accelerating until testing can be completed.

Vinyl chloride is a by-product of solvents such as cleaning fluids. Vinyl chloride is believed to be a carcinogen, which is any substance that can cause or contribute to the production of cancer, that mixes with water but becomes a gas when it is exposed to the air such as in lawn watering.

The wells around the old landfill tested at levels of 30 to 120 parts of vinyl chloride per one billion parts.

The Environmental Protection Agency's acceptable level is no more than three parts per billion.

If unsafe levels of vinyl chloride are found after the Navy collects the samples and performs a risk assessment, then a remediation clean up program will be established.

Frank Cater, project manager for ABB Environmental Services Inc., said the Navy and ABB Environmental Services Inc. will be testing the ground water, surface water, well water, soil, air and sediments at the landfill site, on the rights-of-way on Ga. highway 40 and on residents' private property.

The testing is to begin Friday and will be conducted in two phases.

The first phase is called Hydrocone Sampling or direct push technology. Hydrocone technology consists of a large truck with a metal rod, which pushes into the ground to retrieve groundwater

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## Attend Hearing On Contamination

By BRANDI TIPPS  
Staff Writer

Only about 30 Crooked River Plantation residents attended the second public hearing last week concerning the problem of vinyl chloride contamination in ground water.

The discovery of vinyl chloride resulted from Navy testing in February of wells around an old county landfill located across from the subdivision on federal property. The last testing conducted prior to that time was in 1985.

This hearing was held to discuss the methods that will be used to test for contamination and to address any concerns residents may have.