



ETHELTON ASSESSMENT AREA

Community update #1

Issued 9 November 2020

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is commencing environmental assessment work in Ethelton (please see map overleaf).

This work is to determine whether chemicals used in historical industrial practices, found in groundwater and vapour in the soil, might be a risk to human health.

It has long been understood that volatile chemicals can be transported in groundwater. More recently it has been discovered that they can also be found as vapour in the air spaces between soil particles.

A site at 10-12 Marion Street, Ethelton was formerly used to dye and dry clean clothes.



Former dyers and dry cleaners at 10-12 Maria Street Ethelton

EPA to commence groundwater and soil vapour testing

The EPA has been notified of site contamination from tetrachloroethene (PCE), trichloroethene (TCE) and other chemicals in groundwater and soil vapour (the air spaces between soil particles) at the former dyers and dry cleaners site.

The EPA manages contaminated sites where the original polluter no longer exists, cannot be found or identified, or is unable to carry out or pay the costs of the assessment or remediation that is required. After determining that there was no liable party to undertake this work in Ethelton, the EPA has engaged site contamination consultants to undertake an environmental assessment to determine if there is any health risk to surrounding residents.

In November 2020, drilling and testing of groundwater and soil vapour bores will take place within streets and publicly accessible areas surrounding the site (please see map overleaf). The report should be available in January 2021, however if any results are available before the report is finalised, the EPA will notify any residents that may be impacted directly.

What next?

If groundwater (bore water) contamination is discovered, the EPA is likely to recommend a groundwater prohibition area to protect people from accessing contaminated bore water in this area.

If the results from testing the vapour in the soil indicates potential to enter the indoor air of people's homes, the EPA will seek permission from owners to test on their properties.

The EPA is available during and after business hours by phone, email or in person. Please contact us if you have any queries at all in regard to these assessments.

Basements

Soil vapour is more likely to enter a home when a room is close to groundwater, such as a basement.

If your home has a basement, please contact the EPA.

Please contact us anytime:

Ph: (08) 8463 4799 or email: engage.epa@sa.gov.au

Per richiedere una copia di questa lettera in italiano, si prega di telefonare 13 14 50.

Για να ζητήσετε ένα αντίγραφο της παρούσας επιστολής στην ελληνική γλώσσα, παρακαλούμε τηλεφωνήστε στο 13 14 50.

لتقديم طلب باللغة العربية لصورة من هذه الرسالة
الرجاء الاتصال على الرقم 13 14 50.

Please do not use bore water

Groundwater (bore water) in this area may be contaminated and should not be used for any purpose.

Not all households have access to bore water. Bore water is typically accessed via a pump in your backyard.

Tap water provided by SA Water is not affected. Rain water is also not affected. Please call the EPA if you are unsure whether you have access to bore water.

Home-grown vegetables are safe

Soil, rainwater and mains water are not affected. Contaminated groundwater does not affect the soil above it unless it is used for irrigation or it is the source of the contamination.

Home-grown vegetables are safe to eat, provided you are not watering them with bore water.

FURTHER INFO

For **further information** please contact:

Environment Protection Authority
GPO Box 2607, Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone: (08) 8463 4799
Email: engage.epa@sa.gov.au
Website: www.epa.sa.gov.au

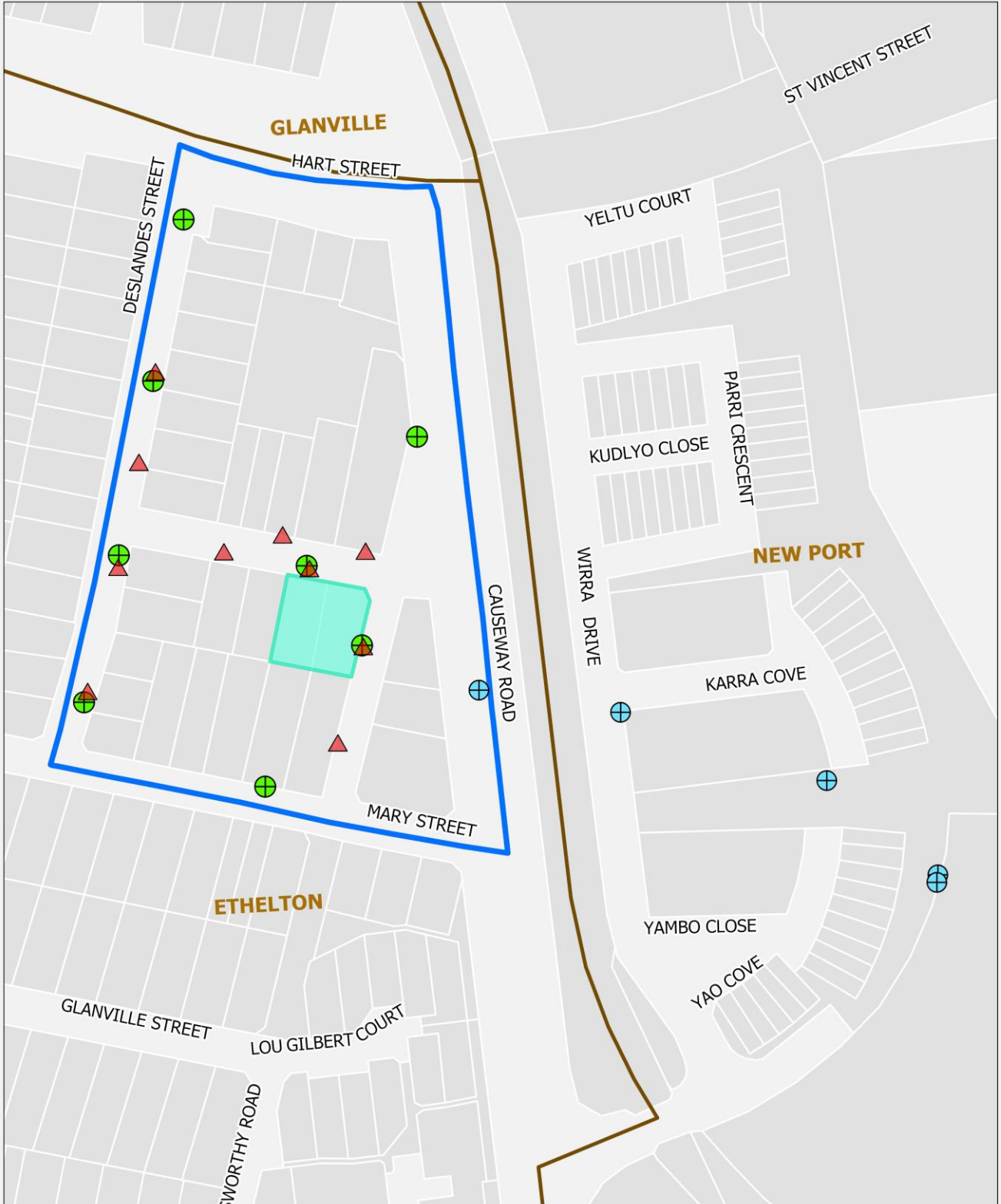
(Follow the link 'Environmental Info' then to 'Assessment Areas')








For **health-related** information please contact:

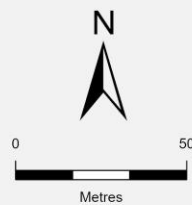
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Ethelton EPA Assessment Area - Stage 1



-  Existing Groundwater Wells
-  Proposed Groundwater Wells
-  Proposed Soil Vapour Bore
-  EPA Assessment Area
-  10-12 Marion Street Site Boundary
-  PARCEL
-  Suburb



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