

Yakima Well Users Meeting!

Friday, February 16, 1996



Well users and water right holders are invited to a meeting with the Department of Ecology to discuss ground water usage in the Yakima Railroad Area.

You and your representative are invited to attend a meeting with the Department of Ecology to discuss the well and ground water usage in the area known as the Yakima Railroad Area. Ecology has been working to protect the people who live and work in the Yakima Railroad Area. At the same time Ecology seeks to protect the interests of the water users and water right holders that are within this area.

This meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am Friday, February 16, 1996 at the Department of Ecology office located at 15 West Yakima Avenue, Suite 200 (Second Floor, above the Antique Mall). A map showing parking and the meeting location is provided on the back of this notice.

Why is Ecology concerned about the well usage in the Yakima Railroad Area?

Concerns about contamination in the ground water has driven Ecology and the cities of Yakima and Union Gap to work together. Through a six million dollar grant, residences in the Yakima Railroad Area using wells for domestic water have been provided with connections to the municipal water systems.

Ecology is now seeking your input on issues surrounding the uses of potentially contaminated ground water (well water) in the Yakima Railroad Area. You are invited

to attend this meeting to discuss the contaminated ground water and any potential impacts on your ground water usage.

The Yakima Railroad Area (YRRA), approximately six square miles in Yakima and Union Gap, has been documented to have tetrachloroethylene contamination in the ground water. The approximate boundaries of the YRRA is "B" street to the North, the Interstate 82 to the East, Ahtanum road to the South and 9th Avenue to the West. Investigations in the YRRA have shown many, but not all, wells in the area to be impacted by the contamination.

What is Tetrachloroethylene and why is it a problem?

Tetrachloroethylene (also known as: perchloroethylene, PERC or PCE) is a chemical that is widely used for dry cleaning fabrics, metal degreasing operations and other applications as a solvent. Tetrachloroethylene has been classified as a hazardous chemical by the US Environmental Protection Agency. Several factors can determine whether harmful health effects will occur after exposure to PCE. The factors include the dose (how much), the duration (how long), the route of exposure (breathing, eating, drinking, or skin contact), exposure to other chemicals, and individual health characteristics. Tetrachloroethylene has been found in the ground water of the YRRA in excess of the EPA drinking water standard.

How can you be involved?

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For technical questions, please contact:

Rick Roeder
Site Manager
Toxics Cleanup Program
Ecology Central Regional Office
15 West Yakima Ave Suite 200
Yakima, WA 98902-3401
(509) 454-7837

John Yandell
Environmental Specialist
(509) 454-7886

Tony Grover
Section Supervisor
Toxics Cleanup Program
(509) 454-7838

To confirm your attendance or to be placed on the site mailing list, please contact:

Frosti Smith
Toxics Cleanup Program
15 West Yakima Ave Suite 200
Yakima, WA 98902-3401
(509) 454-7886

Para asistencia bilingue, favor de hablar a:

Antonio Valero
Toxics Cleanup
(509)454-7833

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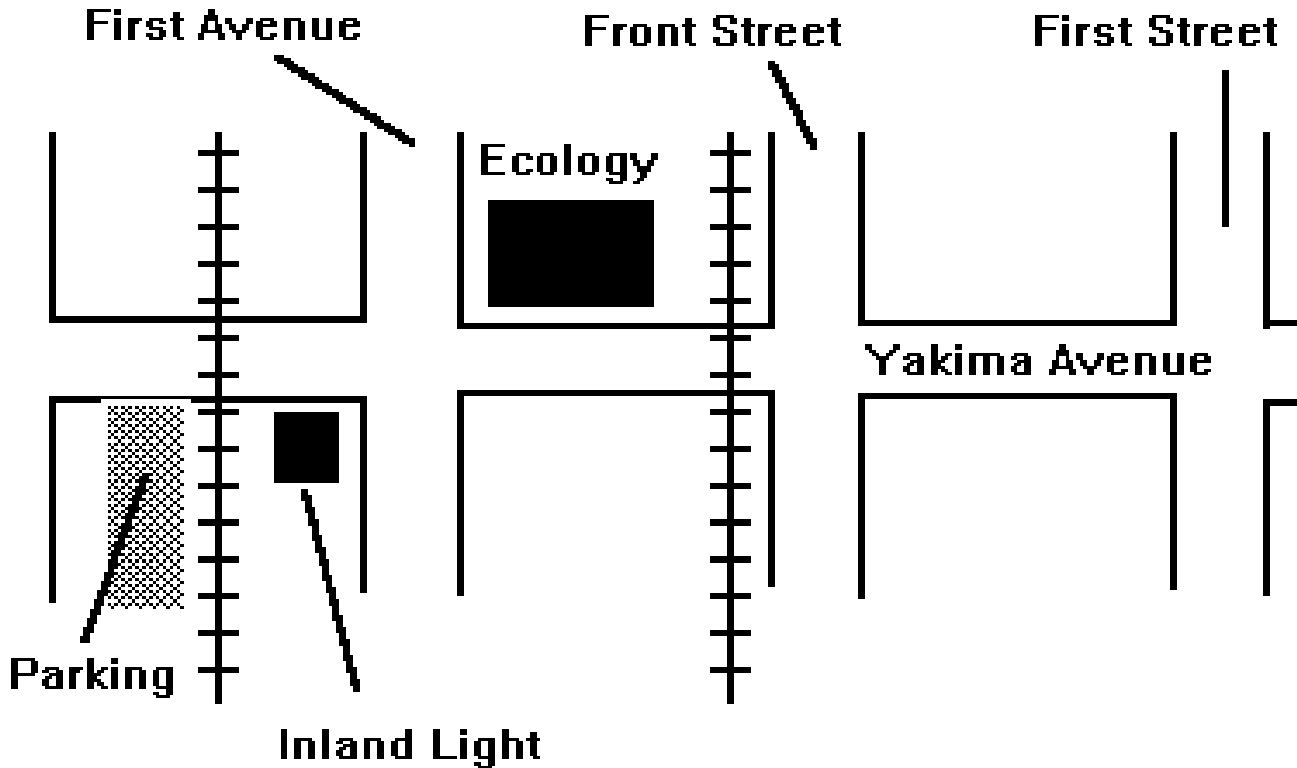
If you have special accommodation needs, or require this document in an alternative format, please call Mark Peterschmidt (509)454-7840 (voice) or (509)454-7673 (TDD only). Para asistencia bilingue, favor de hablar a Tony Valero (509)454-7833 (voz).

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To help Ecology in determining what corrective actions are needed to address the tetrachloroethylene contamination, Ecology needs to understand the concerns of all persons who hold water rights within the YRRA. The meeting you are invited to is for Ecology to learn and understand your concerns. Ecology also asks that you provide any information you might have about the wells you may own or are aware

of within the YRRA including but not limited to purpose (irrigation, domestic, business, etc.), depth, capacity (gallons per minute), construction details and date of drilling.

The Department of Ecology is committed to preserving the health and rights of all people who live and work within the Yakima Railroad Area. If you plan to attend this meeting please contact Frosti Smith at (509) 454-7841. If you have any questions regarding this issue or you cannot attend this meeting, please feel free to contact Rick Roeder (509) 454-7837, John Yandell (509) 454-7886, Tony Grover (509) 454-7838 or Mark Peterschmidt at (509) 454-7840. The Department of Ecology looks forward to seeing you on February 16.



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If you have special accommodation needs, or require this document in an alternative format, please call Sharon Morse (509)454-7886 (voice) or (509)454-7673 (TDD only). Para asistencia bilingue, favor de hablar a Tony Valero (509)454-7833 (voz).

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