

Apex Oil Company, Inc. (Apex) is working collaboratively with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to remediate petroleum contamination under the northern portion of the Village of Hartford. This post card provides a routine update to Hartford residents and business owners regarding our progress. Between July and December 2019, Apex performed the following activities in Hartford:

1. Maintenance was performed within operating soil vapor extraction wells and transmission lines to improve collection of underground gasoline vapors. In addition to the routine maintenance, 16 operating soil vapor extraction wells were upgraded with new controls to further improve gasoline vapor recovery. These were the last of the 86 operating soil vapor extraction wells that were targeted to be retrofitted with new controls.
2. Apex operated the soil vapor extraction system located beneath the northern portion of Hartford, including the thermal treatment units located on the Premcor Refinery property. This system collects and treats underground gasoline vapors before they can move up through the soil into basements. The system operated nearly continuously during the last six months of 2019.
3. Quarterly vapor screening was performed within 192 monitoring locations in May and 187 monitoring locations in November to track effectiveness of the soil vapor extraction system.
4. Regular in-home monitoring was performed in 33 buildings in Hartford, with each checked at least once between July and December for possible gasoline vapors. The data showed that there were 4 occupied homes and 2 vacant homes with gasoline vapors present just beneath the basement and potentially inside the building over the past six months. The structures were ventilated, mitigation measures performed, and maintenance completed within nearby soil vapor extraction wells. Gasoline vapors were not present within any other of the 27 buildings monitored in the northern portions of the Village during the second half of 2019.
5. Groundwater samples were collected from monitoring locations near the Village of Hartford drinking water wells in September 2019. In addition, fluid levels were measured quarterly within more than 360 monitoring locations in July and October to confirm that groundwater flow beneath Hartford is away from the Village of Hartford drinking water supply area. Both the gauging and laboratory results confirm that contamination has not migrated from the northern portion of Hartford towards the public water supply wells.
6. Design, permitting, and construction of a new treatment system to be located on East Birch Street was performed during the first six months of 2019.
7. Ten vacant structures were demolished within the northeastern portion of the Village of Hartford between November and December 2019.
8. The next Community Focus Group meeting to discuss updates on cleanup efforts, concerns from Hartford residents, and outline future cleanup plans is scheduled for January 22, 2020 at 4:45PM. The meeting will be held at Village of Hartford Offices located at 140 West Hawthorne Avenue. For information regarding the Community Focus Group Meetings, please contact Monte McKillip at 402-326-2448 or access the Hartford Community Website at <https://hartfordcommunityfocusgroup.org>