DHSS Review of Air Sample Data from the Bridgeton Landfill Area, May 31, 2015

The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) has reviewed air sample data collected for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) near Bridgeton Landfill on May 31, 2015. Samples were collected at one location upwind of the landfill and three locations downwind of the landfill for laboratory determination of concentrations of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). DHSS has reviewed this data for evaluation of potential public health concerns of short-term health effects.

VOCs

Downwind of the landfill, 11 VOCs were detected in ambient air in concentrations that ranged from 0.19 parts per billion (ppb) to 5.3 ppb and did not exceed health-based screening levels for acute exposure. A benzene concentration of 2 ppb in the upwind sample was slightly above the most conservative available guideline for acute exposure. In ambient air downwind of the landfill, concentrations of benzene ranged from .31 ppb to .99 ppb, and did not exceed guidelines for acute exposure. Therefore, the detection of benzene upwind of the landfill suggests there may be sources of benzene in the area other than the landfill.