## Enbridge Oil Spill



On Monday, July 26, 2010, the pipeline company, Enbridge Energy Partners LLP (Enbridge), reported that a 30inch pipeline belonging to Enbridge burst in Marshall, Michigan. It is estimated that over one million gallons of crude oil spilled into Talmadge Creek, a waterway that feeds the Kalamazoo River, traveling through Calhoun, Kalamazoo, Barry, and Allegan Counties, out to Lake Michigan.

Then-Governor Granholm declared a state of disaster in Calhoun County, along the Kalamazoo River, and threatened areas downstream of Talmadge Creek. The declaration allows coordination of all state efforts in preserving and acquiring state resources to assist with immediate threats to "public health, safety, and the environment."

The Calhoun County Public Health Department (CCPHD) and Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services Department (KCHCSD), in conjunction with federal agencies [Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Homeland Security Division], Michigan State Police, and local law enforcement, each activated its Emergency Operations Centers (EOC).

CCPHD's and KCHCSD's Health Officers and Environmental Health Division Managers, along with local, state, federal and private industry were deployed to assess, prepare, enforce, monitor, and survey the impact to public health. Risks to public health include, but not limited to, direct contact with the oil: water supply, inhalation of airborne chemicals, and ingestion of oil-contaminated water or fish.

The number one priority of all health departments is to ensure that the public's health is protected at all times. In this case, CCPHD and KCHCSD were tasked to ensure that surface water, groundwater, and air quality were safe. Each Department developed monitoring plans to assess future needs and evaluated all environmental data/surveillance for sound decision making to plan for what's next and into the future.

Each Department ensured access to clean drinking water, sanitary facilities, housing, and safe food for the area's population. Each Department collected drinking water samples, developed a long term drinking water plan, and monitored chemical vapors, which can lead to a number of short and long term health effects. A ban was ordered in the use of water from the Kalamazoo River for the purpose of irrigation and watering of livestock until further notice.

Daily briefings of local, state, federal, and private industry officials occurred every morning and afternoon on assessment of the spill, containment, and public and environmental health monitoring. All appropriate health officials and staff were considered on-call 24 hours until deemed no longer necessary and resumed regular business hours. Additionally, each EOC worked to ensure that safety plans and requirements for clean up were consistent between both counties.

Communications included press releases/advisories, "no contact" orders, updated information posted on respective county websites, medical information sheets to residents and physicians for surveillance. Epidemiologists developed an address list of all residents within 200 feet of the Kalamazoo River oil spill area for notification of basic information on how to deal with the spill, important phone numbers, and shelter information. Follow-up community meetings have taken place for ongoing updates from the public.

Each local health department continues to work with federal, state, and private industry to assess and collaborate in shoreline remediation of affected areas on an ongoing basis.

## Oil Spill of 2010



KCHCSD Warning Sign prohibiting swimming, boating, or fish-



Oil sludge in the Talmadge Creek.



Overview of Kalamazoo River, notice boat's wake separating the oil.



## NATIONAL PIPELINE MAPPING SYSTEM

