



WOOD COUNTY

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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Wood County officials announce testing plan, Wednesday press conference

PARKERSBURG, W.Va. -- A nationally recognized environmental science firm is finding steadily improving conditions since Wood County officials retained it to test air quality in the community around the site of the ongoing warehouse fire.

The Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health (CTEH) launched a testing regimen that features continuous air monitoring reinforced by frequent air sampling collections for laboratory analysis.

Aside from the visible soot particles, the initial results show little or no detectable levels of other likely chemicals in the smoke effecting the community. The levels of those soot particles, meanwhile, represent a moderate air quality impact -- comparable to that of a wildfire.

These findings support the advisories from county officials, which remain in place for area residents, as appropriate and sufficient.

The results also supplement the separate and ongoing testing by the W.Va. Department of Environmental Protection. DEP reports that it is monitoring for various pollutants that when detected have been at levels comparable to or lower than what is typically seen in urban areas.

The testing by CTEH, of Little Rock, Ark., has focused on the same sort of pollutants as well additional contaminants. CTEH will continue to conduct its testing and analysis until after the fire is extinguished.

County officials plan to share details regarding the testing and results at a press conference **11 a.m. Wednesday** at the Judge Donald F. Black Annex, 317 Market St., Parkersburg.

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