

Media release



18 February 2022

Additional groundwater sampling at Woodville

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) will conduct further groundwater assessment at Woodville to establish the extent of a proposed groundwater prohibition area.

Work is planned to begin in mid-March and will provide additional seasonal information about groundwater in the area, which is focused on a site on Port Road that carried out electroplating (producing a metal coating by depositing material using an electric current) between 1950 and 1990.

The EPA has been communicating with residents and businesses and undertaking environmental assessments in the area since May 2019.

In October 2019 the EPA advised that as a result of the former industrial activities, groundwater (bore water) was contaminated with [hexavalent chromium](#) (CrVI) and [per- and poly- fluoroalkyl substances \(PFAS\)](#), and should not be used for any purpose. The business used CrVI in its chroming baths and PFAS was often used as a mister for these baths.

The chemicals are not a health risk to residents unless they are using bore water.

Backyard soil, mains water and rainwater are not affected by the contamination.

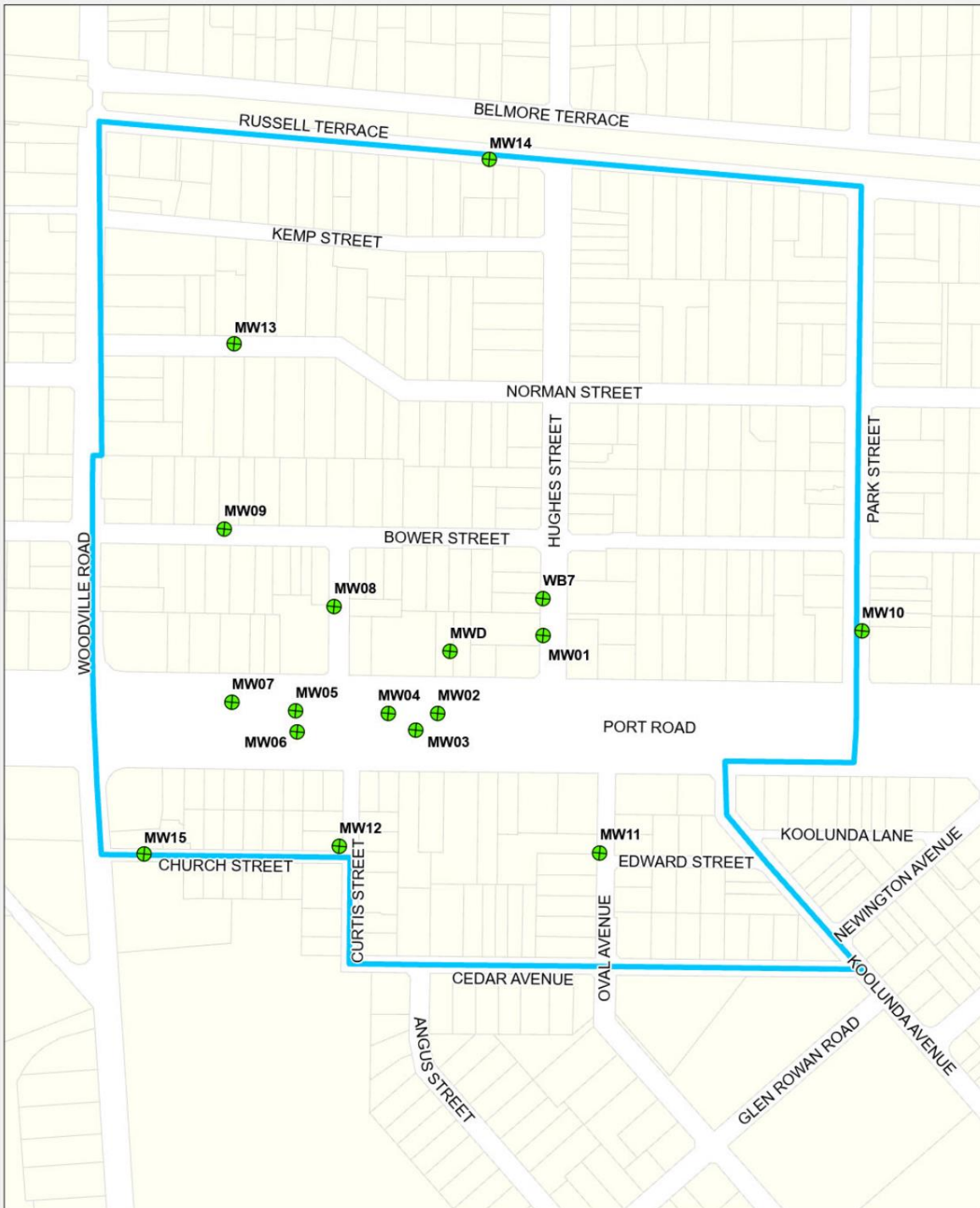
Home-grown vegetables are safe to eat, provided they are not watered with bore water.



This work follows three previous stages of assessment that determined the extent to which the contamination had moved in the uppermost aquifers.

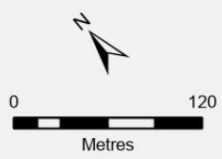
When this assessment is complete the EPA will provide another update and undertake community consultation on the proposal to establish a groundwater prohibition area.

More information is available at the EPA [website](#), including previous community updates and a map.

Port Road, Woodville Stage 3S



 Monitoring Well
 Stage 3S EPA Assessment Area Boundary



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