

Lambertville and West Amwell Community Update
Per- and polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Groundwater Contamination
Connaught Hill PFAS Contamination
NJDEP PI Name: Belvidere Avenue & Allen Street Groundwater Contamination
NJDEP PI#: 1074364

May 19, 2025

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) is continuing potable well sampling and has initiated an unknown source investigation and related to per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination found in private potable wells in West Amwell and Lambertville, in the Connaught Hill neighborhood, in the vicinity of Belvidere Avenue & Allen Street.

PFAS are a large family of thousands of manmade chemicals that have been used in industrial and commercial applications for over 70 years. PFAS, also known as forever chemicals, repel water and oil and are resistant to heat and chemical reactions. There are many potential sources of PFAS in groundwater, including industrial discharges to the environment, landfills, discharges of household products into residential septic systems, and the use of firefighting foam, known as aqueous film-forming foam or AFFF.

POTABLE WELL SAMPLING AND TREATMENT

NJDEP continues to sample private potable wells in the vicinity- at no cost to residents. **The next sampling event is planned for June 25, 2025.** Residents who live in the area and would like their well sampled should contact Greg Broslawski, Office of Community Relations, to schedule an appointment at (609) 940-4775, or gregory.broslawski@dep.nj.gov.

Residents whose potable well sampling results exceed applicable standards will continue to be provided information on the New Jersey Spill Fund Damage Claims Program ([NJDEP Contaminated Site Remediation & Redevelopment Program | ECA Spill Fund](#)). **This program can provide compensation for the entire cost of installation and maintenance of a Point of Entry Treatment (POET) system to treat drinking water – at no cost to the resident.** This includes NJDEP sampled wells or if a resident had their well sampled independently. To date, the Program has received 49 applications for the installation of POETs in the study area and has paid for the installation of 18 treatment systems. The remaining applications are currently under review.

In addition, compensation may be provided to residents for an initial independent analysis of an initial PFAS water sample, if the analysis shows an exceedance of a drinking water standard. A New Jersey Certified Laboratory must collect all private well samples; private well sample results from home test kits cannot be accepted.

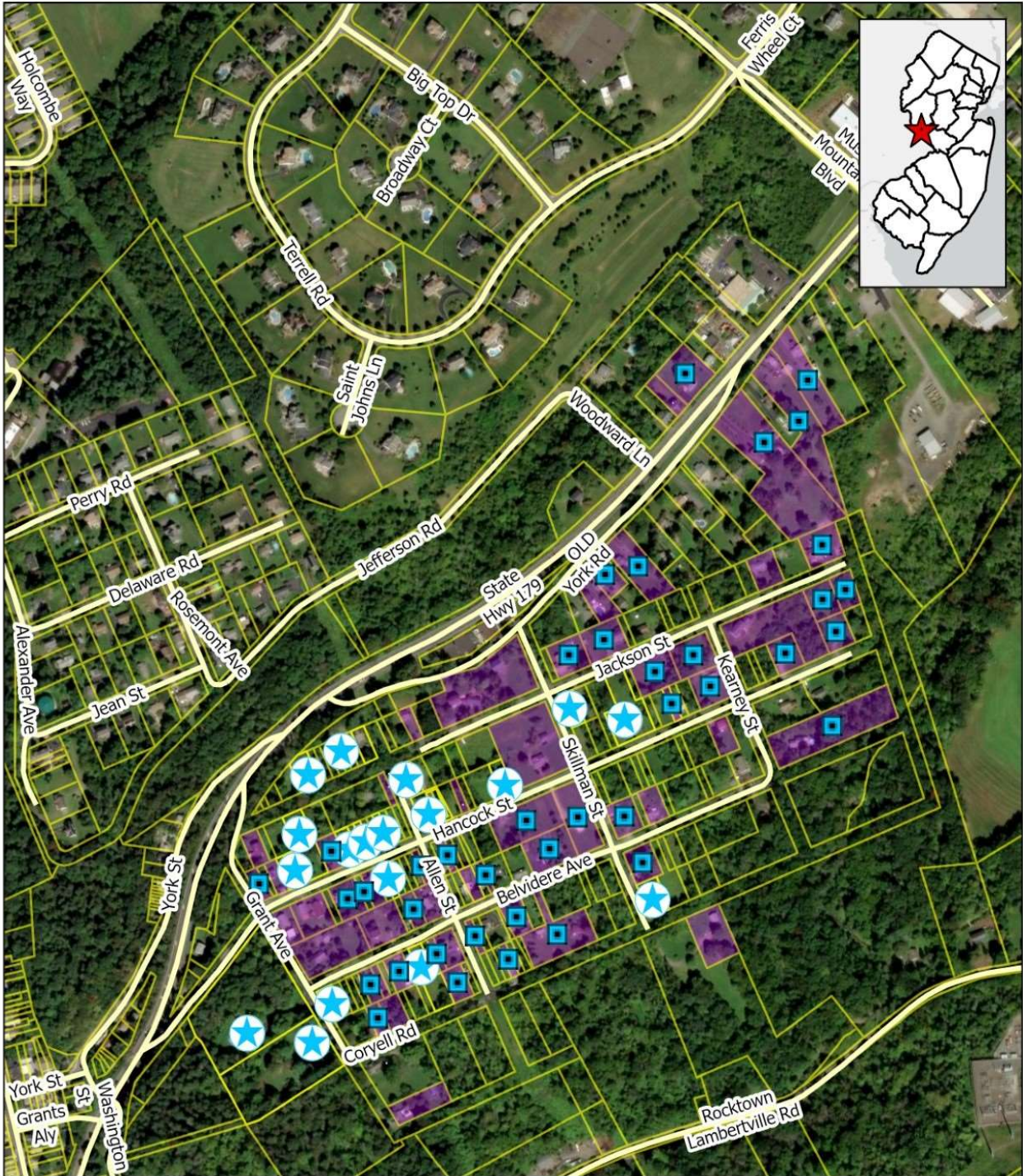
A list of certified laboratories is available via this link [NJDEP New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection \(DataMiner\)](#) and selecting “PFAS Drinking Water Certified Laboratories.”

For questions regarding well sampling or requests for well sampling, please contact Greg Broslawski, Office of Community Relations, to schedule an appointment at (609) 940-4775, or gregory.broslawski@dep.nj.gov.

BACKGROUND




On September 23, 2024, NJDEP received a letter from Mark Peck, the Attorney for West Amwell Township, regarding the identification of PFAS in 7 potable wells located in a neighborhood that stretches between West Amwell, across the township boundary into Lambertville. NJDEP informed the Township of the NJDEP Spill Fund program and residents’ eligibility to file a claim for potential installation of a Point of Entry Treatment System (POET) to treat the contamination found in the potable wells.

NJDEP’s Bureau of Environment Evaluation and Site Assessment (BEMSA) reviewed the results of the 7 potable well samples provided by Mr. Peck, and Private Well Testing Act (PWTA) data from the area. On December 17, 2024, potable well sampling was conducted by NJDEP at 14 properties in the residential neighborhood that is partially in West Amwell, and partially in Lambertville, and the results showed levels of PFAS above the EPA MCLs.

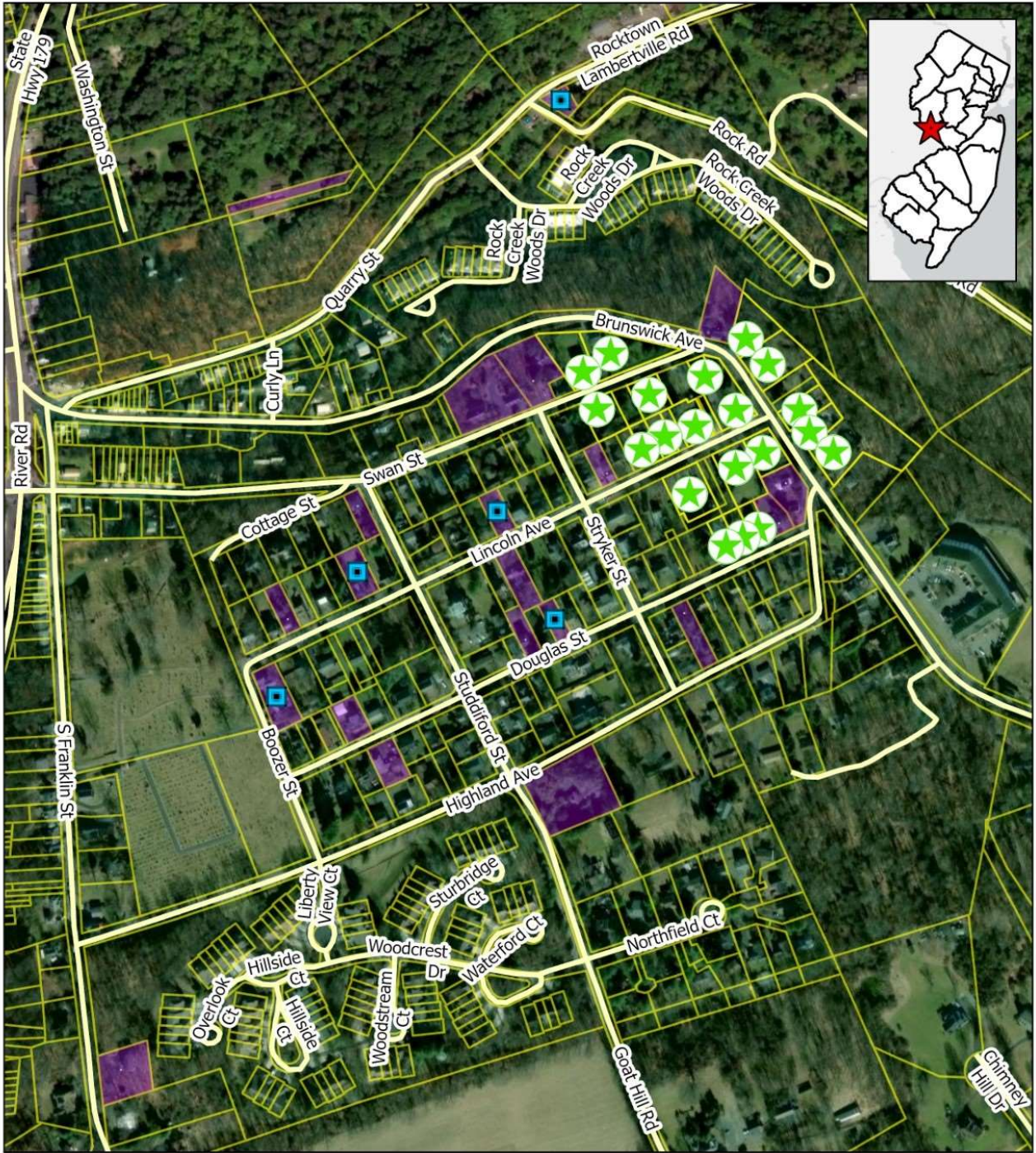


Belvidere Ave & Allen St
 Groundwater Contamination
 Potable Well Investigation
 Lambertville/West Amwell
 Hunterdon County
 PI# 1074364

Legend




-  Proposed sampling June 2025
-  Active Spill Fund Claim
-  Sampled Locations





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UNKNOWN SOURCE INVESTIGATION

In addition to potential household uses of PFAS and potential use of AFFF, two other possible sources of ground water contamination in this area have been identified: the former Taurus Corporation and the former Lambertville landfill area. Additional possible sources may be identified as the investigation continues through 2025 and into 2026. The unknown source investigation is in the information collection phase. For Taurus Corporation and the former Lambertville landfill area, NJDEP received approval from the USEPA to investigate these sites under the USEPA/NJDEP Cooperative Agreement Grant to conduct Preliminary Assessments and Site Investigations. A Preliminary Assessment consists of NJDEP conducting research into the current and past uses of the sites, hazardous substances used, and possible discharges of those substances into the environment. At the conclusion of this research the NJDEP prepares a Preliminary Assessment Report. Following the Preliminary Assessment, NJDEP will conduct Site Investigations. A Site Investigation consists of the collection of soil and groundwater samples to determine if the current or past uses at the sites have resulted in a discharge to the environment. If a discharge is confirmed by sampling, the NJDEP will notify the responsible party of their affirmative obligation to remediate the site under the Site Remediation Reform Act, including hiring a Licensed Site Remediation Professional. If the responsible party does not implement the remediation, the NJDEP may conduct the remediation using public funds and seek to recover those costs from the responsible party. NJDEP plans to begin sampling in the fall of 2025. The Site Investigations can take up to a year or two to complete. Completion of the investigations is dependent upon NJDEP obtaining access from property owners to allow for sampling, the results of the sampling, and whether those results will require additional investigation/sampling of other properties.

BACKGROUND

Taurus Corporation was an electronics manufacturer that operated at 40 Washington Street from 1960 to 1988. An Environmental Cleanup Responsibility Act (ECRA) investigation was completed in 1988, which predates the understanding of PFAS as an environmental concern. Taurus Corporation manufactured board holders, Teflon terminals, punched card readers, and badge readers at the site. According to the ECRA investigation, the Teflon terminals were made with brass and Teflon, which were purchased in rod form and turned on a lathe. Teflon is a brand name for a PFAS known as polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), although Teflon also commonly contained perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) during the period Taurus Corporations operated at the site.

The ECRA investigation also states that the Teflon terminals and Taurus Corporation's other products were often plated or anodized, either on-site or sent out, depending on the product and type of plating conducted. Metal plating and anodizing processes are potential sources of PFAS contamination. As documented in a report of inspection conducted on March 29, 1988, by the NJDEP, many containers of hazardous materials remained on-site. The building at the site

experienced a fire in 1992. It is not known if AFFF, known to contain PFAS, was used to extinguish the fire. AFFF is generally used to extinguish liquid fuel fires, which would not be common in a vacant building. The building on site was demolished in 2012.

Site Location Map for Taurus Corporation (Former)



Possible Source of PFAS Contamination in the Belvidere Avenue & Allen Street Groundwater Contamination Area (PI #: 1074364)

40 Washington Street, Lambertville City, Hunterdon County, New Jersey 08530



The former Lambertville landfill ceased operation in February 1960; however, various accusations have been made of illegal dumping at the site after its official closing. No documentation was found indicating when the site began operating as a landfill. The city regraded the land to cover and flatten the former landfill in 1960. No records were found indicating remediation had been conducted at the site or that environmental concerns were considered in the closure of the landfill. Landfills have been identified as potential sources of PFAS contamination.

Site Location Map for Lambertville Landfill (Former)



Possible Source of PFAS Contamination in the Belvidere Avenue & Allen Street Groundwater Contamination Area (PI #: 1074364)

Lambertville City, Hunterdon County, New Jersey 08530



Additional Resources

For health-related questions please contact the Department of Health (DOH) at (609) 826-4984.

[PFAS Factsheet](#)

[Link to Public Meeting](#)

[Link to Public Meeting Q&A](#)