



# Hopewell Township PFAS Public Meeting

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August 23, 2022



# Public Meeting

## Housekeeping items

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Please mute your microphone and keep your camera off throughout the presentation.

Pre-submitted questions will be answered after the presentation.

Should the presentation and Q&A bring up any further questions, please send these along to [healthclerk@hopewelltwp.org](mailto:healthclerk@hopewelltwp.org).

# Agenda

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Overview of PFAS & drinking water

Background information for Hopewell Township investigation

Role of NJDEP Immediate Concern Unit

New Jersey Spill Compensation Fund

Pre-submitted Q&A



# Overview of PFAS in Drinking Water

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# Drinking Water Standards

- Maximum Contaminant Levels or MCLs
  - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
  - Set at Federal and/or State level
    - States may not adopt standards less stringent than Federal standards
  - 90+ biological, chemical, and radiological contaminants



A young girl with long brown hair, wearing a teal t-shirt, is holding a clear glass of water with ice cubes. She is looking up and to the right with a slight smile. The background is a blurred indoor setting.

## Regulation of PFAS Chemicals – State Level

- 1977
- New Jersey Legislature enacts the New Jersey Safe Drinking Water Act
- “The Legislature finds and declares that it is a paramount policy of the State to protect the purity of the water we drink and that the Department of Environmental Protection shall be empowered to promulgate and enforce regulations to purify drinking water...”

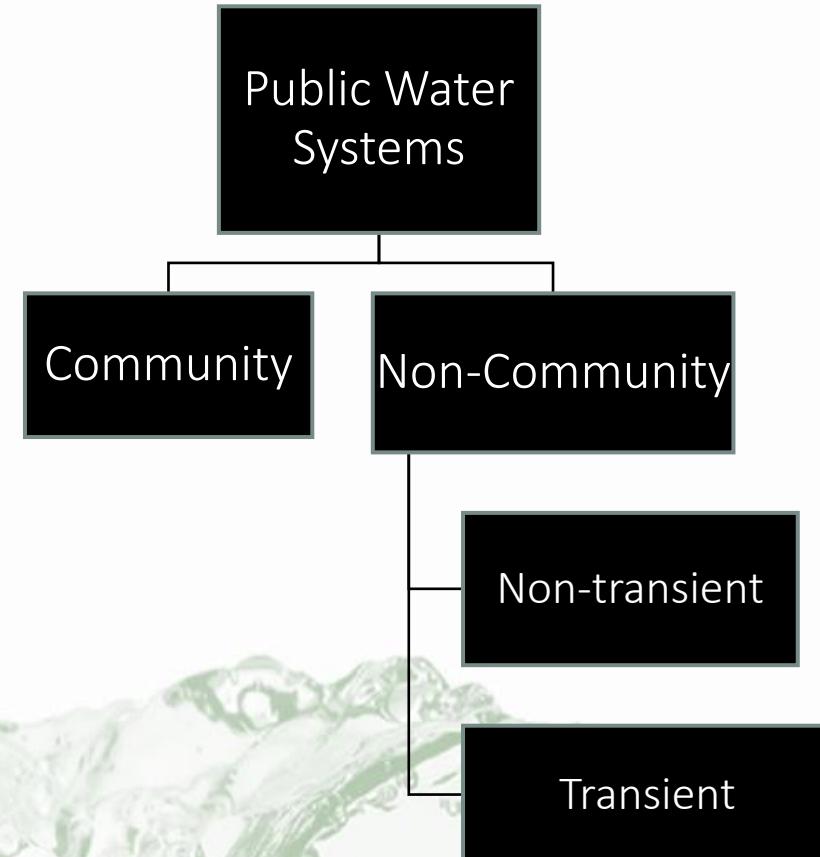


# How does NJ set Drinking Water Standards?

- Drinking Water Quality Institute (DWQI)
  - Advisory board established under 1984 Amendments to New Jersey SDWA.
  - Charged with developing and recommending MCLs to NJDEP.
  - Membership includes NJDEP, NJ Department of Health, and representatives from the academic and scientific community, and the public with background in environmental health, and water purveyors.

# MCLs for PFNA, PFOA, and PFOS

- Apply to public water systems
  - Community Water Systems (490 systems)
  - Non-Transient Non-Community Water Systems (670 systems)
  - Does not apply to Transient Non-Community
  - Does not apply to 100% bulk purchasers
- Requirements:
  - Routinely monitor for these contaminants
  - Take steps to eliminate regulated PFAS from the water delivered to customers if found at levels exceeding the MCLs





# New Jersey Private Well Testing Act -Summary

- Authority - PWTA Law - N.J.S.A. 58:12A-26 et seq.
- Signed into Law March 23, 2001.
- September 14, 2002 - Effective Date of Law Codified at N.J.A.C. 7:9E.
- Rules finalized Sept. 16th, 2002 - NJ Register - Effective Date of State Regulations.
- Website: [www.nj.gov/dep/pwta](http://www.nj.gov/dep/pwta).

# The PWTA Rule

- Establishes regulations governing:
  - The addition of parameters for testing.
  - Sample collection & analysis (OQA).
  - Reporting of results by certified labs.
  - Criteria for notifying nearby property owners.
  - Does not prevent or void a sales transaction.

# PWTA Rule -Who is Subject?

Applies to: Buyers and Sellers of Real Property where...

- Potable water supply is a Private Well OR
- Well has <15 service connections OR
- Well does not serve avg. of 25 individuals daily at least 60 days/year

Contracts of sale must contain provision to test potable water supply for certain parameters.



# Buyer and Seller Requirements

- Buyer & Seller must certify in writing that they have received and reviewed the water test results at closing of title of sale



# PWTA Rule-Lessor Provision

- Testing was due to be performed by March 14th, 2004.
- After 3-14-04, Lessor of real property with (subject) private well must test water supply at least once every 5 years thereafter (if well is not subject to other State laws). Test again by 3/14/2009, etc.
- Lessor must provide written results to tenant within 30 days of testing.
- Lessor must provide copy of results to any new tenant.



# PFAS Parameters and the PWTA

- Under the adopted rule amendments, private wells subject to sale or lease will be required to be tested for PFOA, PFOS, and PFNA with all real estate closings on or after December 1, 2021.
- The PWTA Rules require testing at the time of a real estate transaction, or every five years for rental properties, and notification to potential buyers and tenants.
- The new testing requirements for PFAS parameters under the PWTA apply to ALL counties in the state of New Jersey.

# Well Test Parameters

- *Total coliform bacteria, \*Nitrate, Iron, Manganese, pH, all volatile organic compounds (VOC's) with established Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), Lead, Arsenic, and Gross Alpha particle activity* are required by PWTA regulations for all counties
- The following 3 synthetic organic compounds (SOCs): 1,2,3-trichloropropane, ethylene dibromide, and 1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane are also required to be sampled.
- The following 3 per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances: Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), perfluorooctanoic acid(PFOA), and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)are also required to be sampled.

\* *E.coli - test is also required in State Regulations only if Total Coliform test is positive.*

# Well Test Parameters Continued

Mercury and Uranium:

- Added in State PWTA based on property location within New Jersey.
- For Mercury, the following counties are required to sample:
  - Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean, and Salem
- For Uranium, the following counties are required to sample:
  - Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren



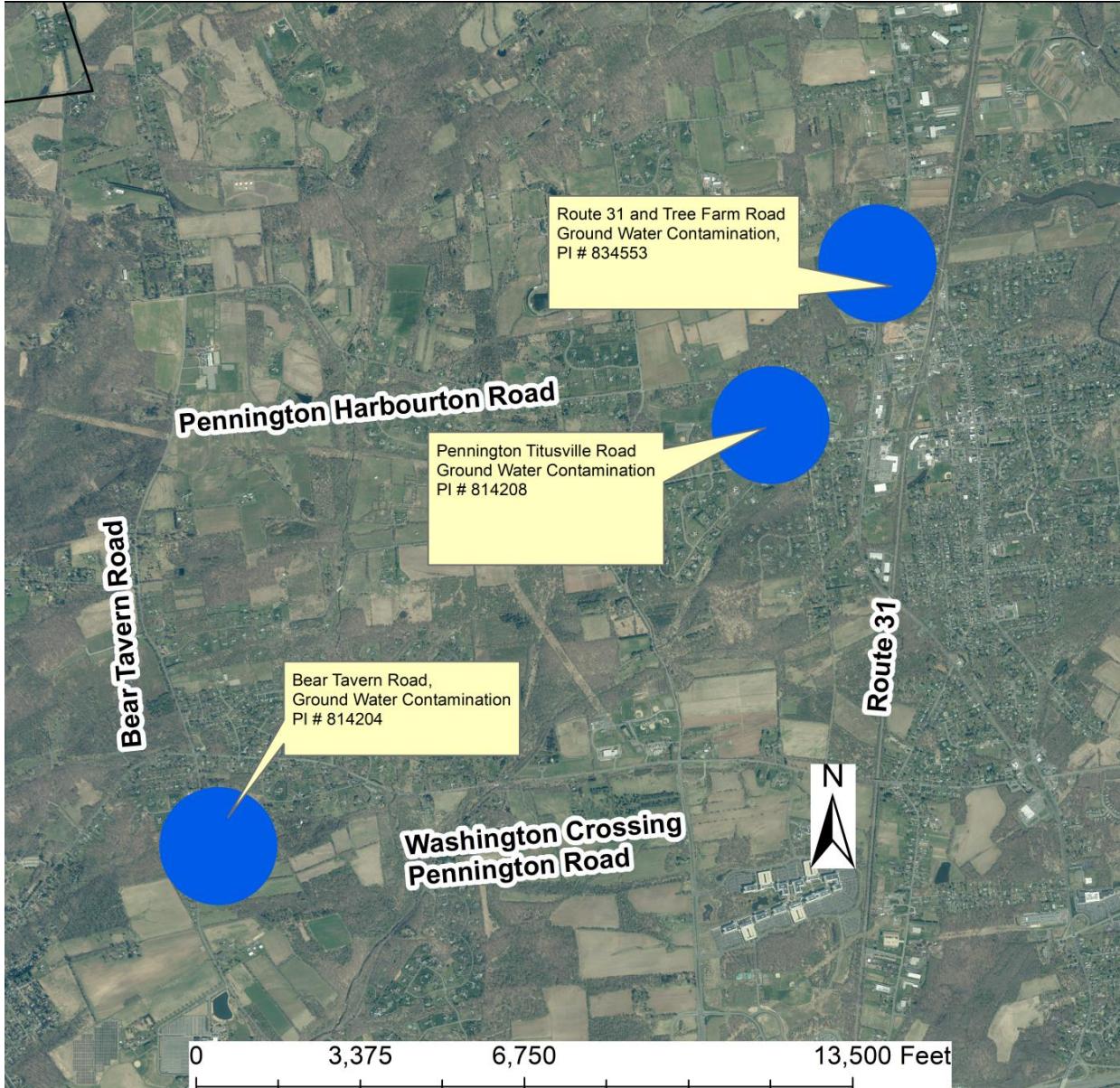
# Analytical Results

- All test Results are valid for 1 Year, except *Coliform*
- Coliform Results (Total, E.coli) valid for 6 months.
- All results must be submitted by the reporting lab electronically to DEP as one “complete package”.
- All results must be provided to client by lab within 5 days of completion of analyses on the *NJ Private Well Water Test Reporting Form*.



# Background Information for Hopewell Township Investigation & Role of NJDEP Immediate Concern Unit

# Hopewell Township: Areas of PFAS Ground Water Contamination



Hopewell Township  
PFAS Contamination

## Legend



ICU Investigations



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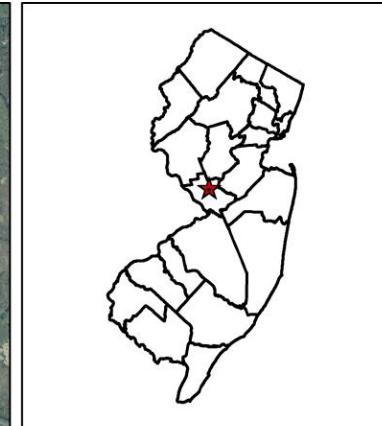
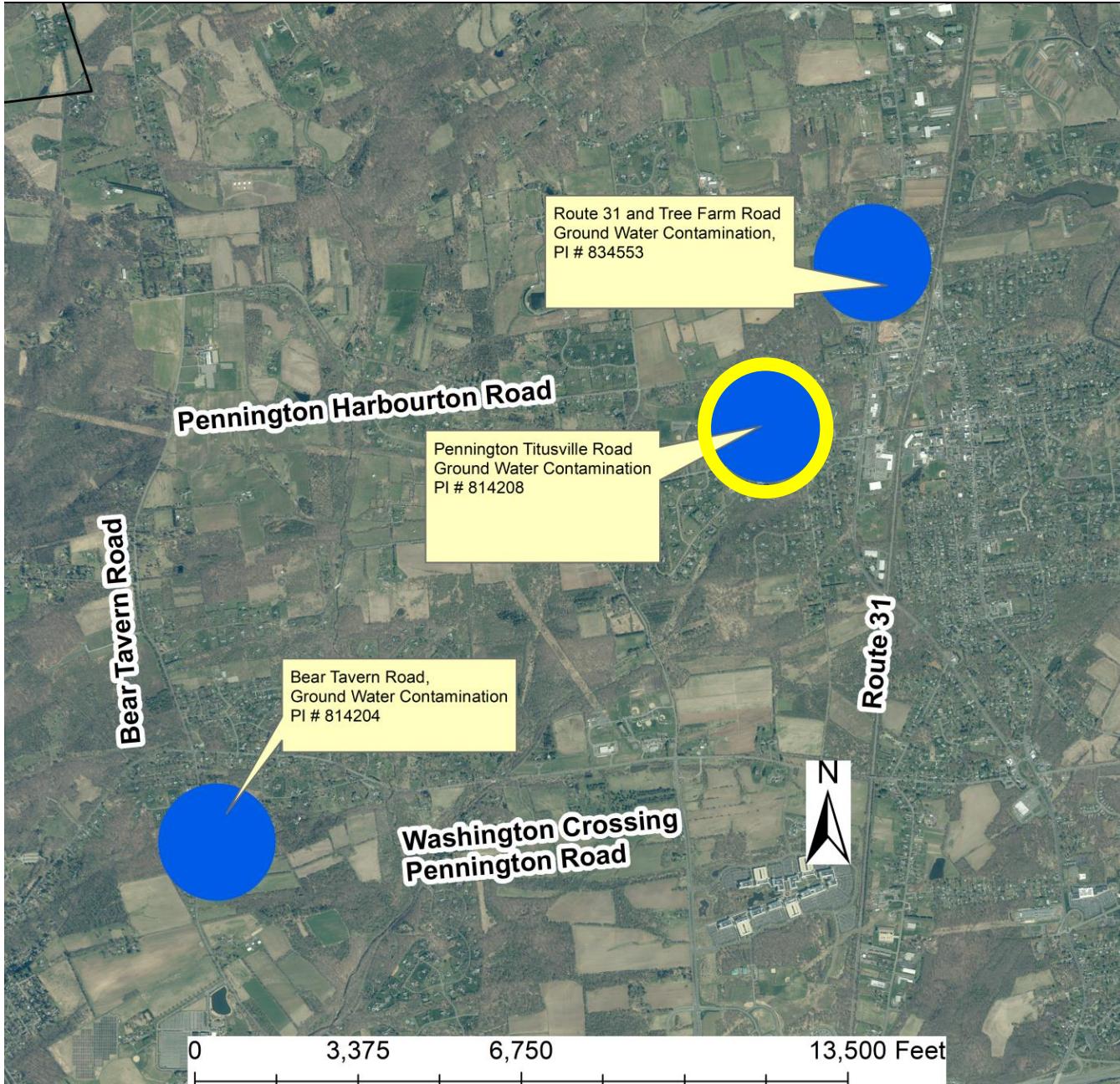
# Background

- Sampling of PFAS for community supply wells, including schools and businesses began in 2019
- All 3 investigations in Hopewell Township were started when one of these wells were tested above a PFAS standard
- The incident was then referred to the Immediate Concern Unit (ICU) and assigned to an ICU case manager
- The ICU began each investigation as a typical Potable Well receptor investigation. Which is to investigate each private well within a defined radius of the well that tested above standard
- “Step out” investigations continue within a defined radius of each private residential well that exceed standard in association of ICUs potable well investigation
- Residents that exceeded a standard were offered a Point Of Entry Treatment system (POET) either by the Environmental Claims Administration “Spill Fund” or Bureau of Site Management depending on the date their well was sampled
- Some residents were also sampled for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). Most wells sampled did not exceed a VOC standard but all residents in the area that received a treatment system have one that will treat both contaminants



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# Pennington Titusville Road



Hopewell Township  
PFAS Contamination

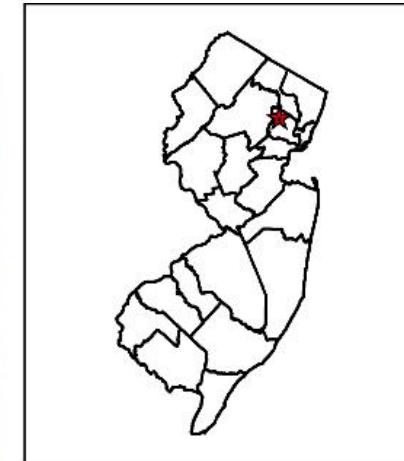
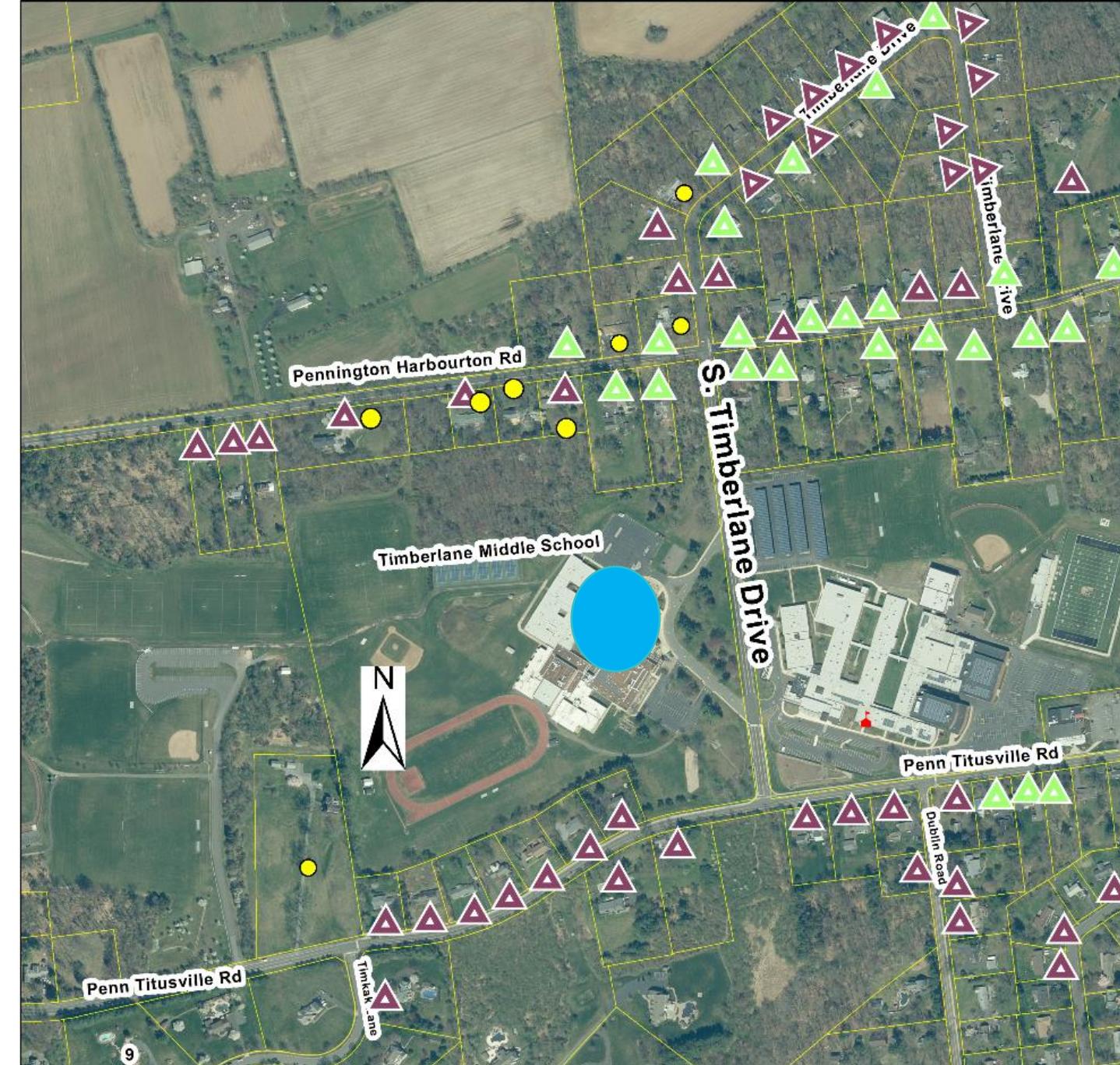
## Legend



ICU Investigations



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Pennington Titusville Rd  
PI # 814200

- < 70 Wells Sampled
- 25 exceeding a PFAS standard
- 9 exceeding TCE (VOC)
- Trigger =

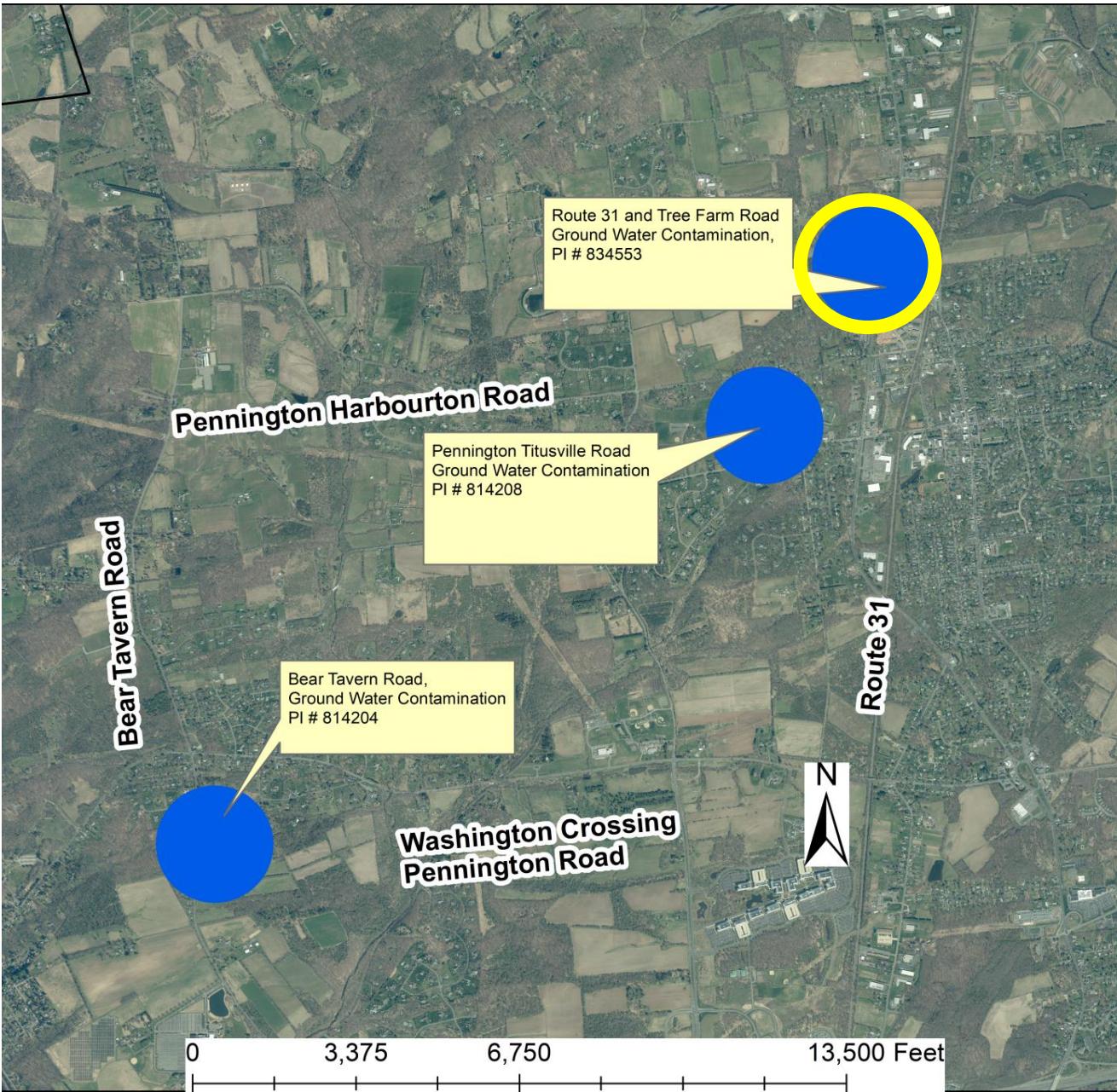
#### Legend

- Public Water
- Exceeded for cVOCs
- Sampled, below IEC
- IECs
- Child Care Centers
- Public
- Private
- Charter



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# Route 31 & Tree Farm Road



Hopewell Township  
PFAS Contamination

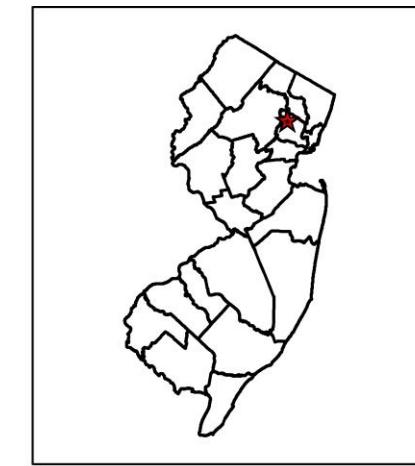
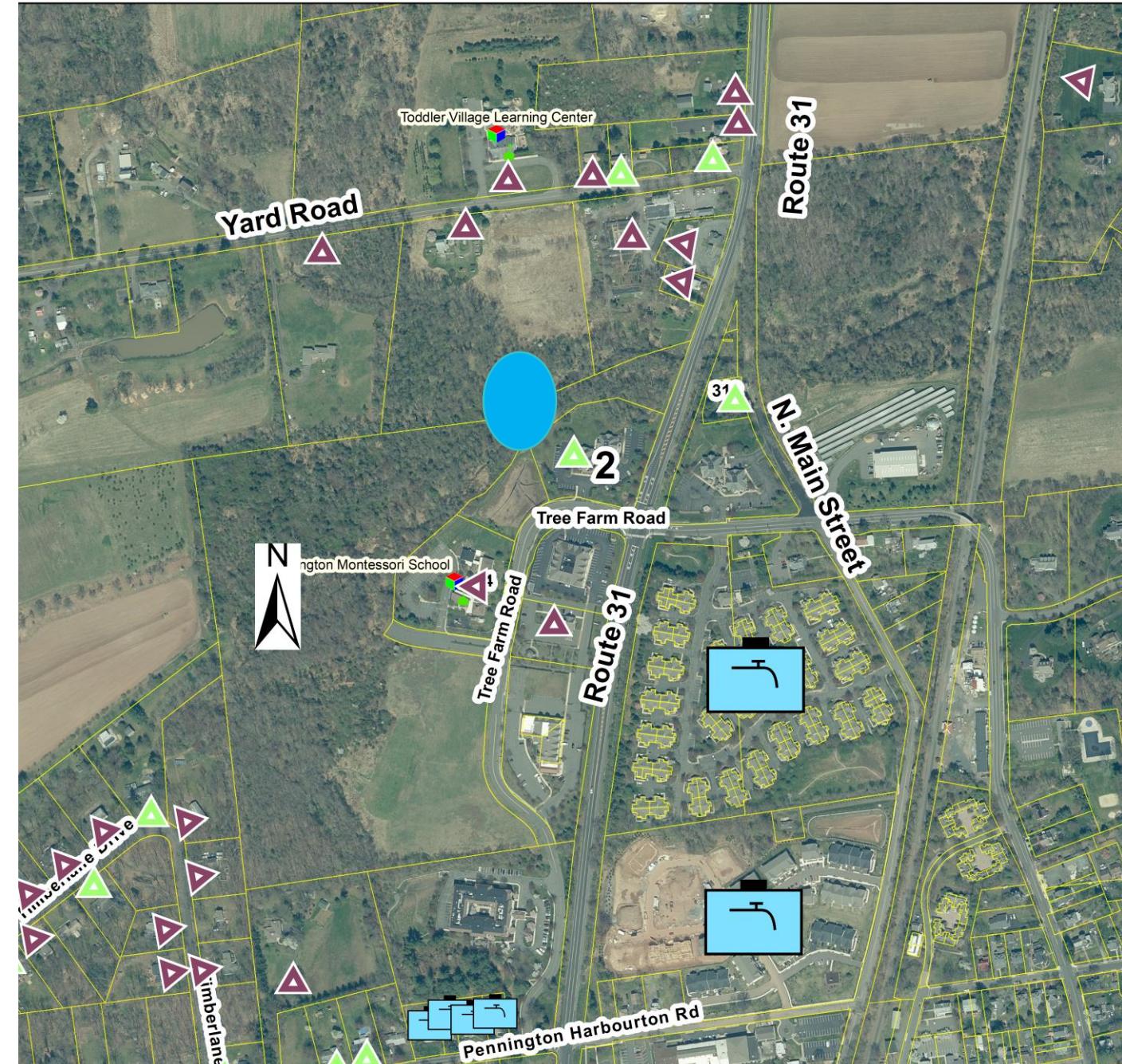
## Legend



ICU Investigations



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Route 31 & Tree Farm Road  
PI # 814208

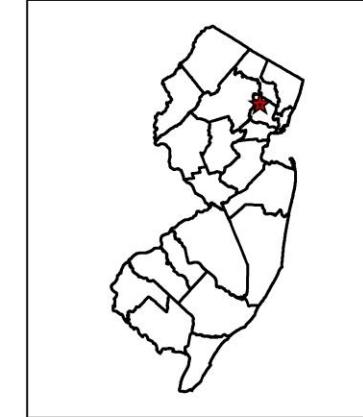
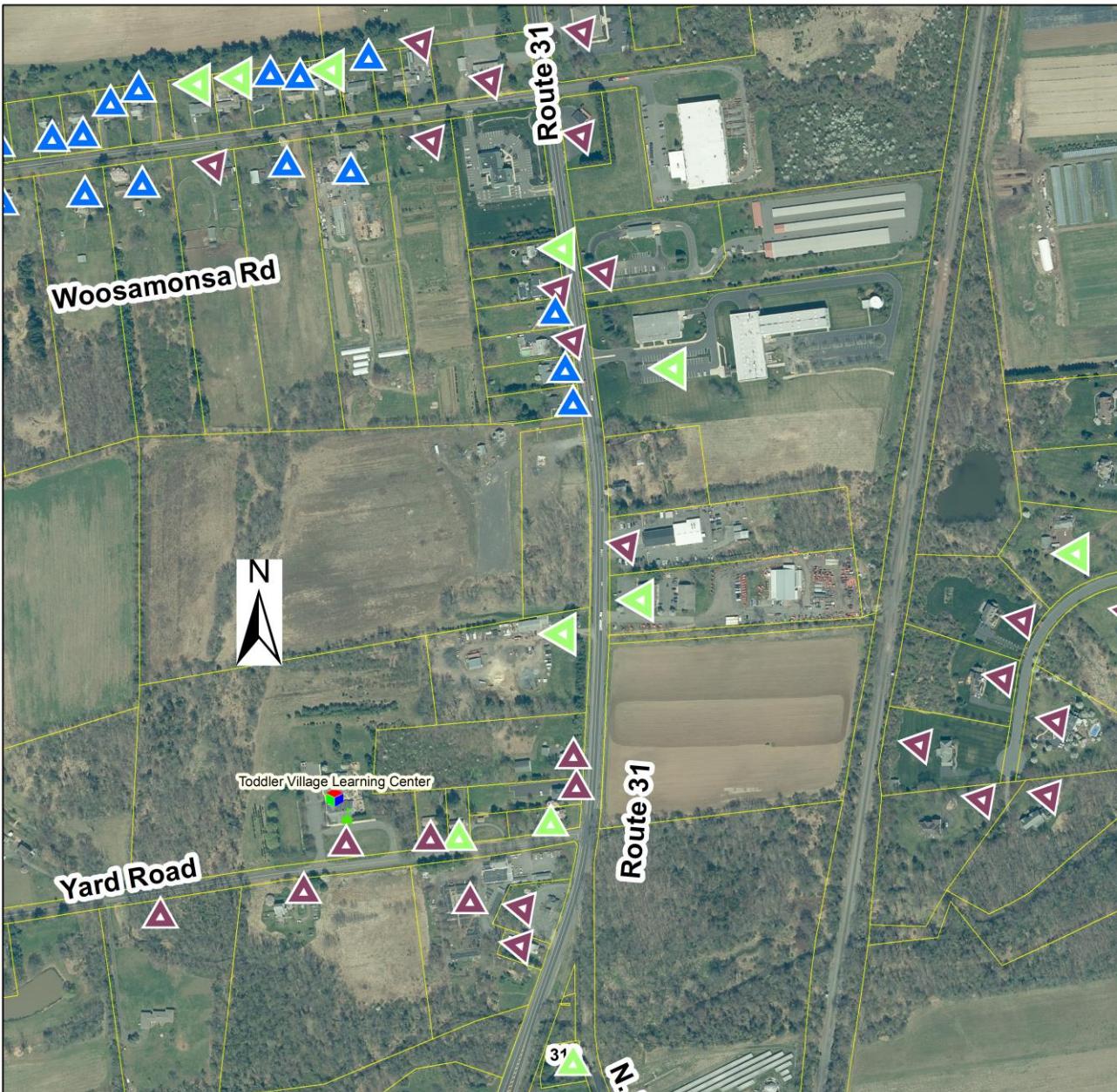
### Legend

- Public Water
- Exceeded for cVOCs
- Sampled, below IEC
- IECs
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# North of Incident and Future Sampling



Route 31 & Tree Farm Road  
PI # 814208

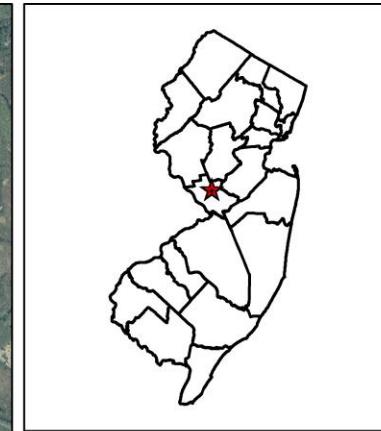
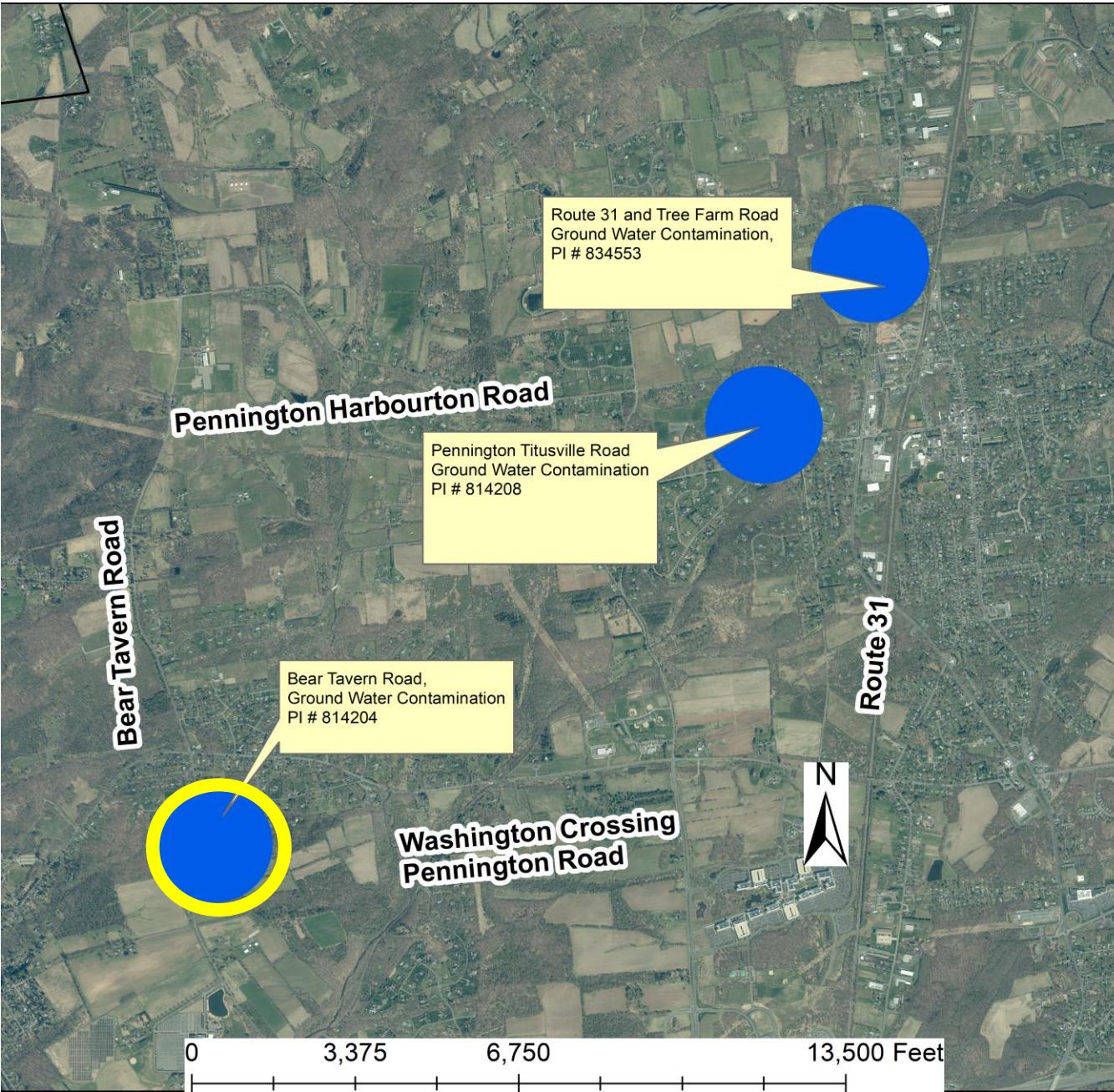
## Legend

- Public Water
- Exceeded for cVOCs
- ▲ Sampled, below IEC
- ▲ IECs
- Child Care Centers
- Public
- Private
- Charter



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# Bear Tavern Road



Hopewell Township  
PFAS Contamination

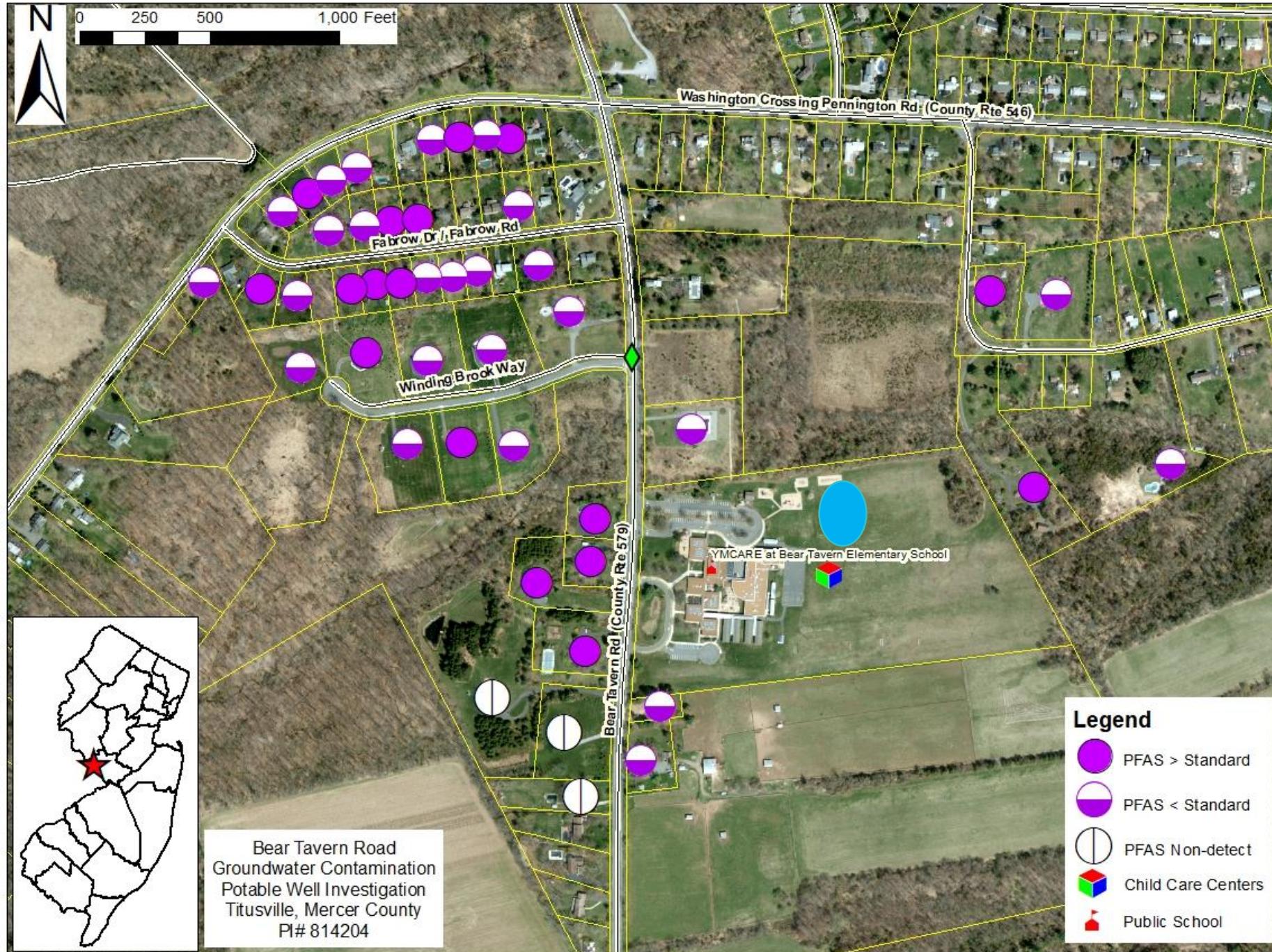
## Legend



ICU Investigations



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- 45 Wells Sampled
- 17 exceeding a PFAS standard
- Trigger =



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# Potable Well Treatment Process

When NJDEP confirms the extent of PFAS contamination. The next step is to outline a Remedial Alternatives Analysis (RAA) to determine the most cost effective long term remedy to the contamination

Remedies may include: providing alternate water supply, and/or options involving treating the contamination

Remedies Include:

1. Bottled Water- A interim solution for quick protection for affected residences until a more permanent solution is done
2. Point Of Entry Treatment or POET - Connecting the water from the well to a system designed to filter out to the contaminants found in the well
3. Public Water- Connecting residences with contaminated wells to a public water supply. If no supply exists installation of water line is considered



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# POETs



- A Point Of Entry Treatment System is designed to treat all water originating from the pressure tank
- The cost of installation and operation of a POET may be covered by NJDEP so long a residents meets a specific set of standards detailed in the next section
- For residents part of Route 31 & Tree Farm Road and Pennington Titusville Road the use of Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) is recommended. For Bear Tavern Road the use of Ion Exchange resin is recommended.
- Specific questions regarding POETs can be directed to the ICU case manger for the site



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# New Jersey Spill Compensation Fund

# Spill Compensation Fund

- New Jersey Spill Compensation and Control Act (Spill Act) was enacted in 1977 (N.J.S.A. 58:10-23.11 et seq.) and created the Spill Compensation Fund
- Administered by Environmental Claims Administration (ECA) within the Contaminated Site Remediation and Redevelopment (CSRR) Program of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
- Implemented through the *“Processing of Damage Claims Pursuant to the Spill Compensation and Control Act”* rules, N.J.A.C. 7:1J



# Spill Compensation Fund

- Revenues for the Fund provided by tax levied on transfer of petroleum and other hazardous substances from major facilities
- Non-lapsing, revolving fund made available to the residents, municipalities, and businesses in New Jersey through damage claims filed with NJDEP



# **Spill Fund Claims - N.J.A.C. 7:1J**

- “Fund of last resort” - must exhaust all other sources of funding - including potential responsible party(ies)
- For Assistance – One must first incur damages - speculative damages are not eligible
- Ineligible if Claimant knew or should have known about the discharge.
- Responsible parties are ineligible



# Prioritization of Claims

N.J.A.C 7:1J-2.2 (b) The administrator shall prioritize the categories of claims that are eligible for compensation in the following order:

1. Homeowner claims: Potable water damages and restoration
2. Schools/Child Care Facilities - Potable water damages and restoration at schools and childcare facilities; and
3. All other categories of claims.



# Claim(s) Procedures

- Submittal of claim needs to occur within one-year of date of discovery of the damage
- All appropriate forms and required data need to be completed and sent to the ECA for review and processing
- ECA reviews submittals for completeness and eligibility
- Claimants are notified by ECA/Spill Fund of claim validity/eligibility



# Guidelines for Homeowners Potable Well Water Claims

- Submit claim application by **CERTIFIED MAIL**, or by other means that provide receipt showing date of mailing and date of delivery.
- Provide copies of **INITIAL** and **CONFIRMING** water test results from a NJ state certified water-testing laboratory.
- Include a copy of **CURRENT TAX BILL** or **DEED**.
- If **NO** waterline is available, provide **THREE (3) ESTIMATES** for a **Point-of-Entry Treatment (POET)** system
- If a waterline is available, provide **THREE (3) ESTIMATES** from licensed plumbers to **HOOK-UP** and **THREE (3) ESTIMATES** from **CERTIFIED** well sealer to **SEAL** the well..

# Spill Claims

More information on Spill Claims:

[www.nj.gov/dep/srp/finance/eca.htm](http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/finance/eca.htm)

Spill Fund General Questions Hotline:

-Phone: 609-984-2076

-Email: srp\_Spillfund\_gq@dep.nj.gov



# Pre-Submitted Questions and Answers

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# Contact Page

## Questions:

Should the presentation and Q&A have brought up any further questions, please send these along to

[healthclerk@hopewelltwp.org](mailto:healthclerk@hopewelltwp.org)

## **More information about PFAS**

[www.nj.gov/dep/pfas](http://www.nj.gov/dep/pfas)

## **Certified PWTA Labs:**

[www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/pwta/pwta\\_lablist.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/pwta/pwta_lablist.htm)

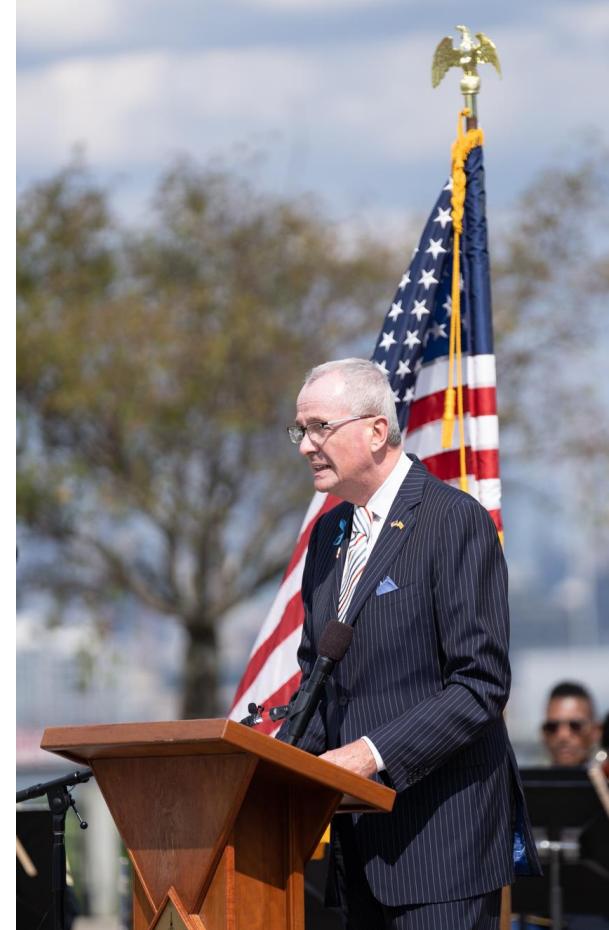
## **Office of Community Relations**

[Gregory.Broslawski@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Gregory.Broslawski@dep.nj.gov)

## **ICU Case Managers**

[Ronald.Trauger@dep.nj.gov](mailto:Ronald.Trauger@dep.nj.gov)

[alexandra.skinner@dep.nj.gov](mailto:alexandra.skinner@dep.nj.gov)



# Thank you!

