## RESPONDING TO AN EMERGING CONTAMINANT IN GREENWICH

**COOPERATION** 

**COORDINATION** 

COMMUNICATION

**TRUST** 

COLLABORATION

**STRATEGY** 

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Director of Health

8/28/2019

## CONNECTION TO THE COMMUNITY

Diverse, well educated affluent mid-sized community with population of 62,359 (2016) located in Fairfield County

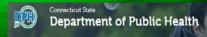
Full time government and agencies (not all inclusive): Health, Fire, Police, Wetlands/Conservation, Parks and Recreations, EMS by contract

**Drinking Water:** Aquarion Water Company and approximately 3,000 private wells

## STATE STRATEGY

# CT DPH Worked With Dept. of Energy And Environmental Protection (DEEP) Remediation on PFAS Strategy

- Identify areas where PFAS may have been released to the environment
- Identify public and private drinking water supplies that may be vulnerable to PFAS contamination
- Developed webpages (DWS and DEEP) and public education
- DPH Developed action level for PFAS (sum of 5 PFAS)
- Developed well water sampling criteria
- Proposed action steps if PFAS identified



CT.GOV HOME DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH PER- AND POLYFLUORDALKYL SUBSTANCES



#### Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

Per and polyfluoroalisyl substances are a group of manufactured chemicals that are collireferred to as PFAS, PFAS are used in a variety of products and applications including no coolware, upholstered furniture, clothing, food packaging, and fireflything foom used to petroleum fires. These substances are not found naturally in the environment. They do down easily and are extremely persistent in both the environment, especially in water, at body. It is estimated that there are approximately 3,000 PFAS in production. The termin family of substances has been evolving. The current accepted acronym for this family of PFAS, but references to "perfluorinated compounds" or PFCs remain in older literature.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a life time health a of 70 parts per trillion (ppt, equivalent to nanogram per liter or ng/l) in drinking water for perfluorocitanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorocitane sultonate (PFOS) or the sum of PFOA-PFV drinking water. The CT DPH Environmental and Occupational Health Assessment Program the U.S. EPA Health Advisory of 70 ppt to be protective. Further, it has developed a CT DF Water Action Level applicable to private wells in Connecticut in which the sum of five PFI. (PFOA and PFOS, pilos perfluoronoranoic acid, PFNA, perfluorohexane sulfonate, PFHxS, perfluorohepsanoic acid, PFHA91 should not exceed the limit of 70 ppt.

Beginning in 2013, the EPA required that all public water systems (PWSs) serving more the individuals test for six PFAS compounds. Connectouts large PWSs conducted multiple retesting from 2013 to 2015 and did not detect PFAS in the water from their sources of sup-sources of supply provide dinning water for over 2.4 million doily outstomers in CT.

The DPH Drinking Water Section, collaborating with the Department of Energy and Enviro Protection (DEEP), is in the process of identifying areas in the state where sources of pub water may be vulnerable to PFAS. Any PWSs determined to be vulnerable will be notified Connection DPH

For more information and fact sheets, the following links are provided:

#### Basic Information

- · EPA information and fact sheets
- Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) website on a contaminants, including PFAS
- Laboratories approved by EPA to conduct EPA Method 537 for PFAS for samples collect Connecticut
- · Interstate Technology Regulatory Council Fact Sheets for PFAS

#### Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFASs)

<u>DPH Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances</u> - Health information, well treatment options, and CT approved labs

CT DPH Groundwater and Well Contamination - PFAS Drinking Water Action Level and Health Concerns

DEEP Remediation Roundtable: June 20, 2017 Poly- and Perfluorinated Alkyl Substan CT Regulatory Status (begins on slide 82)

EPA - Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in Your Environment

FPA Drinking Water Health Advisories for PFOA and PFOS - both basic information an EPA Per: and Polyflouroalkyl Substances (PFASs) under TSCA - EPA evaluation under Department of the Navy PFC/PFAS webpage - information on all aspects of PFASs, es CA Scientific Guidance Panel Riomonitoring California: Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroa technical Information on numerous PFCs and blooccumulation.

VT Department of Health PFOA (Perfluorooctanoic Acid) - general information regardi MN DOH Perfluorochemicals (PFCs) in Minnesota - general information

NJ DEP SICE Remediation Program Contaminants of Emerging Concern - PFAS informs INVMOA PFAS Project webpage includes links to presentations and information fro National Institutes of Health. Perfluorinated Chemicals - general health information in SIRDP/ESTCP Webinart PFASS: Analytical and Characterization Frontiers (January 28 Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council PSA Team webpage).

ITRC - PFAS - Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances - technical fact sheets (including in Spanish)

#### Perchlorate

CLU-IN Perchlorate Overview - numerous state and federal links regarding all aspects <u>EPA Perchlorate Page</u> - contaminant profile and regulatory information <u>TIRC Perchlorate Page</u> - links to technical documents and web-based training on rem

#### anomaterials

EPA Research on Nanomaterials - information regarding which nanomaterials EPA is well as links to other nanomaterial research

National Institutes of Health: Nanomaterials - general health information regarding n

#### Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs)

Please note: Surface water bodies to which sewage effluent is discharged are **not** use the State of Connecticut, limiting certain exposures referenced in some pages listed l

EPA Contaminants of Emerging Concern including Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care information and information regarding aquatic life

NETWPCC Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs) - information from th Workgroup and links to federal, state, and regional resources

CA Dept. of Toxic Substances Control Toxicological Issues Associated With PPCPs - of INT Pharmaceuticals in Our Waters: An Emerging Concern (PDF) - reasons for concern Occurrence of Unregulated Compounds in Surface Waters, Ground Waters and Public in NJ - general information and links to NJ studies of PPCPs in water

EPA Method 1694: Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products in Water, Soll, Sedim technical document describing laboratory procedures

Content Last Updated January 31, 2018



#### Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs) in Drinking Water: Health Concerns

Environmental & Occupational Health Assessment Program • August 2017

#### What are These Chemicals?

Perfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) are a family of manmade chemicals with many useful properties including the ability to repel water, prevent staining and increase heat resistance. PFASs have many industrial and consumer uses including the coating of fabrics and non-stick cookware, in food packaging (e.g., microwave



popcorn bags), as a mist suppressant in chrome plating, and in firefighting foam used by firemen to put out petroleum fires, but not typically in home fire extinguishers.

The most studied PFASs are perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS). While we know the most about the harmful effects and environmental fate of these two PFASs, several others of high concern are also discussed in this fact sheet, perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), perfluorohexane sulfonate (PFHxS) and perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA). PFOS and PFOA have been phased out of production but the other three PFASs have not. Further, these are very persistent chemicals which can remain in the environment for long periods after being removed from the marketplace.

#### How do PFASs get into drinking water?

The way in which these chemicals reach groundwater is still being investigated. Drinking water contamination has occurred near industries manufacturing or using these chemicals to make consumer products. PFAS use at chrome plating facilities for mist suppressant can also be a source of groundwater contamination. Because of their use in firefighting foams, it is possible that fire training schools, airports and sites where there was a major fire may have releases of PFASs. Once on the ground, these chemicals can gradually migrate down through the soil when it rains and affect groundwater.

Connecticut Department of Public Health PO Box 340308, Hartford, CT 06134-0308 http://www.ct.gov/dph

## PFAS STATE AND LOCAL COLLABORATION

➤ NYS Westchester County identifies PFAS contamination in NY in public drinking water wells on NYS/CT border

➤ DPH and DEEP brief Greenwich Department of Health (GHD) about possible PFAS migration into Greenwich public/private well water supplies

## PFAS STATE AND LOCAL COMMUNICATION

Direct support, involvement and direction from DPH Commissioner's Office

Focus on the health of the community

Communication to public/private well water supply owners

Agreed upon community outreach forum

## **PFAS** STATE AND LOCAL COOPERATION

- Working with differences between federal and state and local strategies
- Timing of correspondence
- Scheduling well water sample collection
- Initiating press releases
- Communicating with elected officials, boards, community groups, town agencies



CAROLINE CALDERONE BAIRLES DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



DOUGLAS SERAFIN, La DEBORAH TRAVERS, Di ROBIN CLARK-SMITH, I

Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

[Administrative Contact]

Testing for Possible Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in CT Public Drinking Water Suppl

The purpose of this correspondence is to notify you that the State Department of Public Health (DF Drinking Water Supply Section (DWS) will be coordinating the collection of water samples from y public drinking water supply. The attached letter CT DPH DWS outlines this effort

January 29, 2018

Re: Testing for Perfluoroalkyl Substances in Public Drinking Water Supplies on the New

This letter is to inform you that the Department of Public Health (CTDPH) Drinking Water Section (DWS) is sampling public water supply wells in a section of Greenwich along the New York border because of recent detections of perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in a nearby area The CTDPH DWS is collaborating with the CTDPH Katherine A. Kelley State Public Health Laboratory to provide free water sample collection for your public drinking water sources of

### ORGANIZED STRATEGY FOR TEAM APPROACH

- Handled all safety and security matters with local police
- Available for media inquiries and local resident questions
- Understands community's sensitivity due to historic contamination issues
- Awareness of community/political mistrust of Westchester County Airport

### Contaminated water found in Greenwich wells near airport

By Robert Marchant Updated 10:53 pm EDT, Friday, April 13, 2018

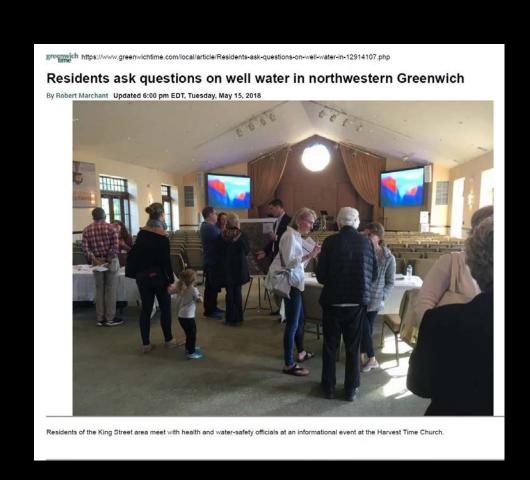


A plane returns to the terminal at Westchester County Airport in White Plains, N.Y. Tuesday, Aug. 1, 2017.

GREENWICH — Investigators have found contaminants believed to have leached into the soil from Westchester County Airport in the well water of two Greenwich property owners in the north end of town.

### ORGANIZED STRATEGY FOR TEAM APPROACH

- Facilitated by the Greenwich Department of Health
- Held in the impacted area
- Attendees were free to circulate
- Opportunity for confidential consultation
- Team presentation at the end of information session
- Team members stayed to answer questions



## LESSON LEARNED/RECOMMENDATIONS

- Need to communicate and collaborate to deliver a common message
- State and local agencies need to gain trust of each other
- Local health lead for local communication
- Local health is known and trusted by community residents.

## LESSONS LEARNED/RECOMMENDATIONS

- Public information/community outreach sessions should be conducted.
- Guidance, protection and assistance to local towns and cities from state government is needed
- Legislative action may be needed for items such as:
  - ➤ Reimbursement to communities for PFAS contamination
  - >Legal action
  - ➤ Adoption of requirements pertaining to PFAS

