



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is investigating contamination from several industrial sources around Route 31 and Rymon Road in Washington Township, New Jersey. In November 2024, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection requested that the EPA take over the investigation of the site due to high levels of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, in groundwater and soil.

The EPA is taking three steps to swiftly protect community members from PFAS contamination:

1. Providing Bottled Water:

The EPA is distributing free bottled water to immediately protect people from exposure to PFAS contamination through drinking and cooking.

If your drinking water was already sampled by the NJDEP and PFAS was found above the EPA's Maximum Contaminant Levels, or MCLs, the EPA will contact you to begin providing bottled water immediately.

If your drinking water is sampled by the EPA and PFAS is found above the EPA's MCLs, the EPA will contact you when it receives those results to begin providing bottled water.

2. Sampling Drinking Water:

The EPA is sampling wells at residential and commercial properties for free to determine if drinking water at each property in the EPA's study area is contaminated.

If you received a letter from the EPA about your eligibility for sampling, or you believe that you live within the study area, please return the provided access consent form to schedule an appointment for your drinking water to be sampled.

The sampling process takes about one hour, and 2-3 contractors, hired by the EPA, will be indoors at the property to take samples of your drinking water. The EPA will share results with the property owners and tenants when they are available, about two months after the sampling is completed.

3. Installing Treatment Systems:

The EPA is installing individual water treatment systems to address contamination and protect residents and workers.

After the EPA receives the sampling results, if a property's drinking water has contaminant levels above the EPA's MCLs, that property will be eligible to receive a free water treatment system called a Point-of-Entry Treatment system.

Point-of-Entry Treatment, or POET systems, are systems that treat water before it enters the home or building. PFAS and other contaminants are filtered out of the water system before it flows into the plumbing system in a home.

If a property has an existing POET system, the EPA will still need to test to make sure it is filtering out PFAS, and the EPA may make changes to the system if needed.



Community Meeting:

The EPA is hosting a community meeting on **Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at the Warren Hills Regional High School auditorium**. The EPA will present on the work that is planned and next steps for the investigation. Community members will have time to ask questions and can sign access consent forms at the meeting.

Facts and Definitions

PFAS: Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances are a group of man-made chemicals that are not found naturally in the environment. The two types of PFAS made in the largest amounts in the United States were PFOA and PFOS. PFAS can be found in air, soil, and water as a result of manufacture and use. They do not break down in the environment very easily. PFAS can seep through the soil into groundwater and may adversely impact people's health and the environment. See <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/our-current-understanding-human-health-and-environmental-risks-pfas> for more information.

MCLs: The EPA's Maximum Contaminant Levels are science-based standards for the maximum level allowed of a contaminant in drinking water.

POET: Point-of-Entry Treatment systems are systems that treat water before it enters the home. PFAS and other contaminants are filtered out of the water system before it flows into the plumbing system in a home.

Background

For several decades, a historic textile manufacturing facility known as Castle Creek Fabrics and Northern Dyeing Corporation spread sludge that was contaminated with PFAS over several fields in the area as fertilizer.

Beginning in 2020, the NJDEP sampled drinking water and soil in the area, and reimbursed affected residents and businesses for their purchases of bottled water and treatment systems for their homes.

EPA Contact Information

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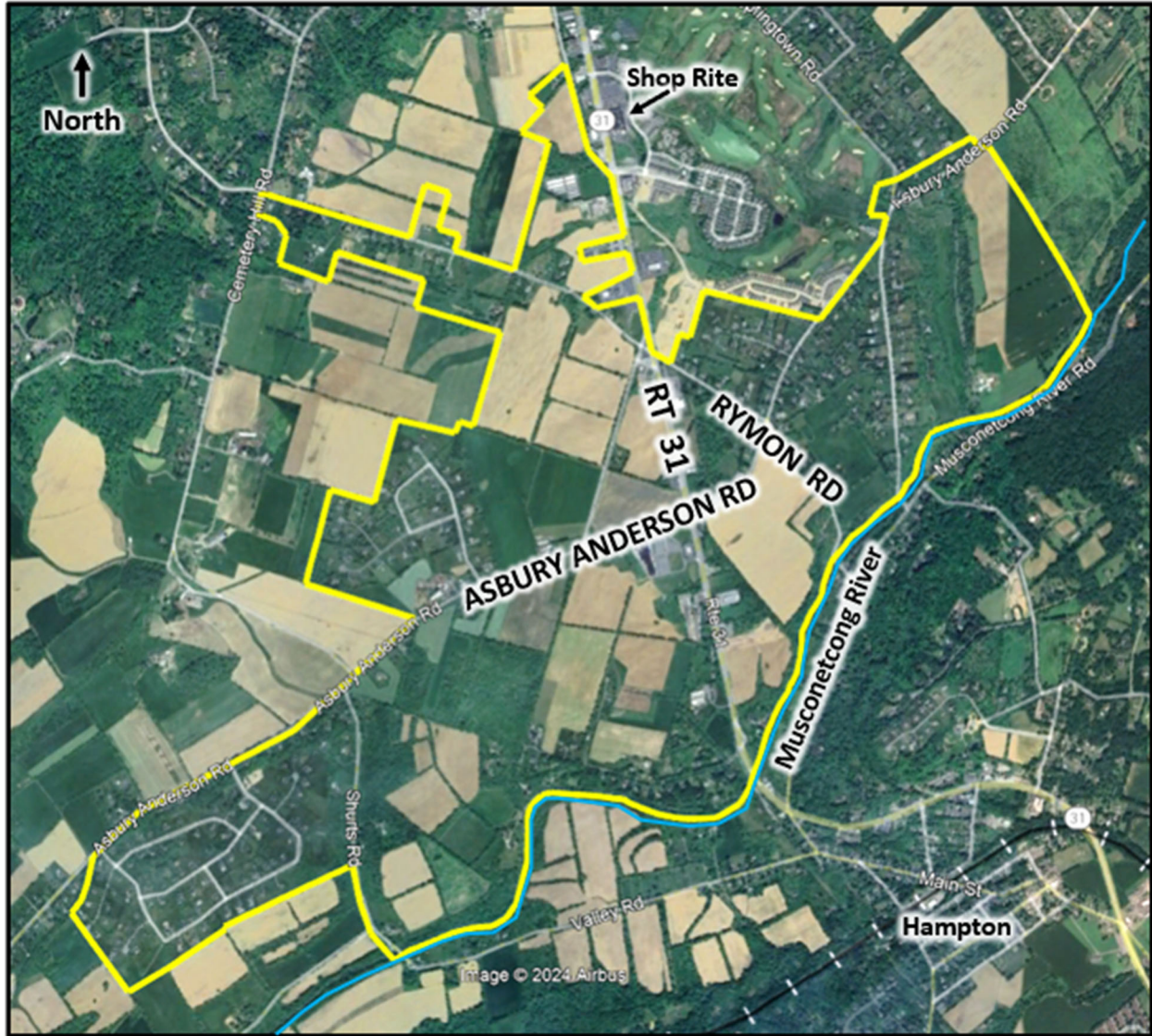
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EPA Study Area



-  Study area boundary
-  Musconetcong River