



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL WEAPONS STATION EARLE
201 HIGHWAY 34
COLTS NECK NJ 07722-5001

IN REPLY REFER TO
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Ser 00/xxx
31 Jan 23

XXXXXX
XXXXXXX
XXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXX

Dear Sir or Ma'am:

SUBJECT: DRINKING WATER SAMPLING NEAR NAVAL WEAPONS STATION EARLE

The U.S. Navy is conducting an off-base drinking water well investigation near Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Earle beginning in February 2023. The Navy is testing for certain per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), which may be present in these drinking water wells due to past uses on-base of a firefighting agent called aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) or other PFAS-containing materials. Although this issue is not unique to the Department of Defense (DoD) or the U.S. Navy, we are conducting this investigation to proactively address possible issues that may exist from past Navy activity.

Your property is located within the sampling area near NWS Earle and based on our records review, we believe the drinking water consumed on your property, xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, located at xxxxxxxxxxxx, in xxxxxxxx, New Jersey, may come from a well. If this is the case, we would like permission to sample your drinking water. This sampling would be at no cost to you.

You may schedule a drinking water well sampling appointment for your property by calling (833) 737-7267 (833-REQSAMP) and leave a message with your name, property address, property number (included above) and telephone number.

PFAS are a family of thousands of different chemicals which have been widely used in many household and industrial products since the 1950s because of their stain and water-repellent properties. Although the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has started the process to establish regulatory levels for two PFAS in drinking water, there are currently no federal Safe Drinking Water Act regulatory standards for PFAS. In May 2016, the EPA issued lifetime drinking water health advisories for two commonly used and studied PFAS: perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS). These health advisories recommended that concentrations of PFOA and PFOS, whether individual or combined, in drinking water should not be above 70 parts per trillion (ppt).

The U.S. Navy subsequently established a policy to ensure the communities near our installations are not exposed to drinking water with PFOA and/or PFOS because of a known or potential U.S. Navy release of PFAS-containing materials. Our first priority is to ensure people

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are not being exposed to PFOA and/or PFOS in their drinking water at concentrations above 70 ppt, whether individual or combined, as a result of a U.S. Navy PFAS release at NWS Earle.

Working in partnership with EPA Region 2, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry Region 2, and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the U.S. Navy is voluntarily conducting this off-base drinking water well investigation near NWS Earle. If the U.S. Navy's sampling indicates that your drinking water well contains PFOA and/or PFOS above 70 ppt, the U.S. Navy will provide bottled water for drinking and cooking. We will continue to provide alternate drinking water until a long-term solution is in place.

We ask you to please complete and return the well questionnaire and access authorization form prior to your sampling appointment, which are provided as enclosures (1) and (2). Enclosures (3) and (4) provide additional information regarding drinking water well sampling near NWS Earle. You may also review our project website at <http://www.navfac.navy.mil/nwsearlepfas>.

We invite you to attend an Open House on February 23, 2023 anytime between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 pm at the Courtyard Banquet, 30 E. Main Street, Freehold, New Jersey. Enclosure (5) provides directions to the Open House venue and parking. The Open House will have informational displays along with representatives from the U.S. Navy and its regulatory partners. You will also be able to schedule a drinking water well sampling appointment.

We are committed to keeping you informed of our investigation. If you have questions, contact the Navy Public Affairs office at: colt.wpnstaearlepa@navy.mil or call and leave a detailed message at (833) 737-7267; please include your telephone number so that a team member may return your call.

Sincerely,

E. L. CALLAHAN
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer

Enclosure: 1. Drinking Water Well Questionnaire
2. Access Authorization Form
3. PFAS Drinking Water Sampling Frequently Asked Questions
4. NWS Earle Off-Base Drinking Water Sampling for PFAS Fact Sheet
5. Directions to Courtyard Banquet and Market Yard Parking Lot