

NEWLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

CHESTER COUNTY
1751 Embreeville Road
Coatesville, Pa 19320
Phone 610-486-1141

SUPERVISORS:

Bill Kelsall
Jim Cornell
Bob Pearson

November 9, 2023

Re: **PFAS at Strasburg Landfill**

Dear Laurel Road/
Wheatland Drive
Resident:

We thought you would want to be aware of the following information:

On October 20, 2023, Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection ("PADEP") notified us that leachate¹ samples recently collected at the Strasburg Landfill Superfund Site² have shown elevated concentrations of perfluorooctanoic acid and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (collectively, "PFAS"³).

The US Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") has since advised us that (i) it plans to sample for PFAS in Landfill's wells as soon as possible and (ii) if EPA finds elevated PFAS levels in the Landfill's groundwater it will seek nearby property owners' permission to test for PFAS in their wells downgradient from the Landfill.

On November 2, EPA also confirmed that:

If PFAS are found to be present in residential drinking water wells, either EPA or PADEP would provide bottled water, and EPA would [later] provide filtration

¹ "Leachate" is the liquid that comes into contact with buried waste in a landfill.

² For background information on the Landfill, see [STRASBURG LANDFILL | Superfund Site Profile | Superfund Site Information | US EPA](#).

³ Exposure to PFAS has been linked to a number of health problems, including cancer, thyroid disease, reproductive problems, and developmental delays in children. PFAS was not originally identified as a contaminant of concern associated with the Landfill, but PADEP began sampling for PFAS in the Fall of 2022. For more information about PFAS, see <https://www.epa.gov/pfas> and www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/index.html.

systems or an ultimate response action. **Residents will not be expected to cover the cost of bottled water or filtration systems for contamination found to be related to the Landfill.** [emphasis supplied]

Please note that that quote starts with “**If...**” - To date there has been no determination that PFAS have migrated offsite from the Landfill.

EPA and PADEP have confirmed that they will keep the Township informed as sampling results become available.

If you need additional information regarding EPA’s sampling plans, or “next steps”, please feel free to contact David Greaves (EPA’s Remedial Project Manager (“RPM”) for the Landfill) at (215) 814-5729 or greaves.david@epa.gov.

Best Regards,


Jim Cornell
Vice Chair