

Town of Stella Updates

May 1, 2024

Town Of Stella Updates

- Private Drinking Water
- Surface Water
- Deer
- Overview of Contamination Next Steps

Private Wells

Mark Pauli

Northern Region Drinking Water and Groundwater Supervisor

Private Well Expanded Sampling Effort

- Expanding private well PFAS sampling efforts to a 3-mile range from the Town of Stella town hall
 - Includes full-time and seasonal residences
 - Eligible households will receive a letter from the DNR by June 30, 2024
 - Letters will be sent in batches to accommodate laboratory capacity
 - Residences within the 3-mile expanded range that do not receive a letter by June 30 should contact the DNR
- Residents will conduct the sampling of their private well
 - Directions supplied with the sampling kit



Private Well Expanded Sampling Effort

- Residences will be notified of sampling results
- Residences with PFAS detected above Department of Health Services' (DHS) recommended health guidelines will receive a Health Advisory Letter
- Health Advisory Letters make a residence eligible for temporary emergency water paid for by the DNR



Private Well Sampling

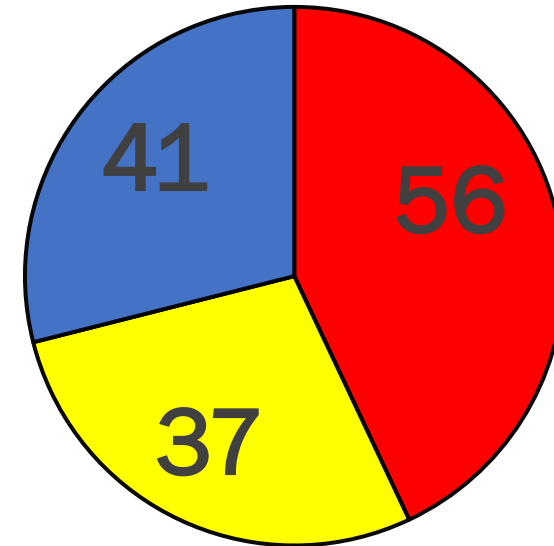
As of March 28, 2024, 134 private wells have been sampled for PFAS

- DNR Sampling: 103 wells within 2.5 miles of Town of Stella Town Hall
- Private Sampling: 31 wells; 23 outside of DNR's 2.5-mile sampling area

Breakdown of results:

- PFAS detected above DHS' recommended health guidelines: **56 private wells**
 - 54 Health Advisory Letters issued
 - Eligible for in-home bottled water funded by the DNR
- PFAS detected below DHS' recommended health guidelines: **37 private wells**
- No detection for PFAS: **41 private wells**

PFAS Sampling Results in Private Wells



■ Above DHS guidelines ■ Below DHS guidelines ■ No Detection

Private Well Sampling

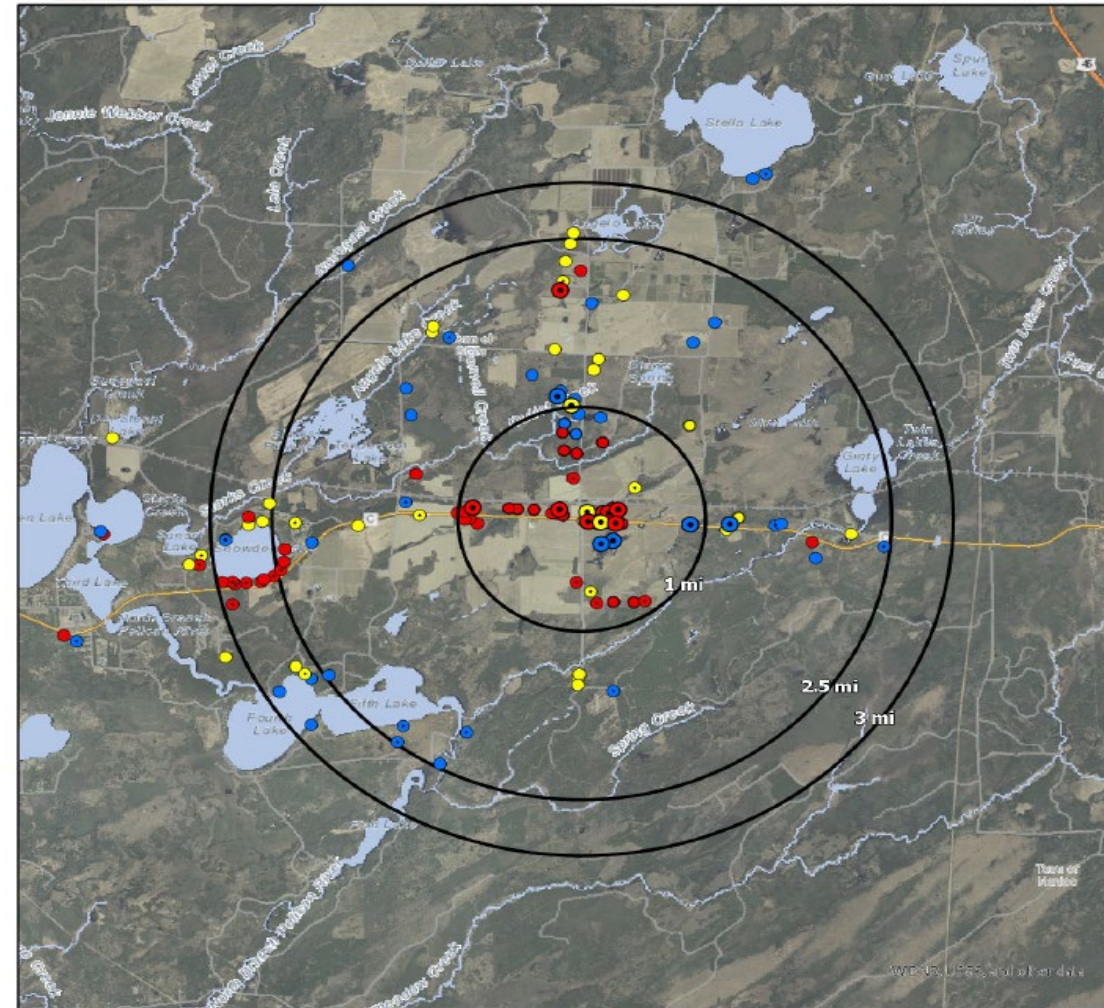
56 private wells over DHS' recommended health guidelines

Well Type:

- 12 point
- 15 sand and gravel
- 18 bedrock
- 11 unknown



Map of Starks area/Town of Stella
PFAS sampling results (as of 03/28/2024)



- | | |
|--|---|
| No detection of any PFAS | No detection of any PFAS (Granite Well) |
| PFAS detected but < WI Health Guidelines | PFAS detected but < WI Health Guidelines (Granite Well) |
| PFAS detected but > WI Health Guidelines | PFAS detected but > WI Health Guidelines (Granite Well) |

DISCLAIMER: This map is for informational purposes only and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering or surveying purposes. The user is solely responsible for verifying the accuracy of information before using for any purpose.
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Resources For Impacted Private Wells

- New well recommendation
- Well Compensation Grant Program
- Treatment options
 - Reverse osmosis
 - Ion exchange
 - Granulated activated charcoal (GAC)

Assistance To The Community

22 awards to impacted homeowners in Town of Stella

- 19 replacement wells
- 3 treatment systems

Award activities

- 6 projects have completed work and submitted for reimbursement
- 16 projects are active
- 3 projects are under review

Well Success Stories

- Six wells have been installed utilizing the new recommendation
 - Four wells have resulted in water supply with no detection of PFAS
 - Two wells significantly reduced initial PFAS levels and additional treatment was installed to reduce PFAS levels below DHS' recommended health guidelines
- 16 sites are currently being drilled or assessing PFAS impacts



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Surface Water

Patrick Gorski, Ph.D.

Emerging Contaminants Research Scientist

2023-2024 PFAS Surface Water Summary

- 2023
 - Sampled 29 sites
 - PFAS concentrations above surface water standards
 - Snowden Lake and most of the Moen Chain watershed
 - NB Pelican River and downstream into Pelican River to the WI River
 - Low PFAS concentrations
 - Lakes: Stella, Ginty, Spur, Moen, Thompson and George
 - Pelican R upstream of confluence with the NB of Pelican River
- 2024
 - Expand sampling areas beyond the Moen Chain
 - Determine and define extent of high PFAS levels

Deer

Sean Strom,
Fish and Wildlife Toxicologist

PFAS in Deer

Hunters interested in donating a sample can contact Sean Strom at Sean.Strom@wisconsin.gov



istock.com / Charlie Dobbs

Overview Of Contamination Next Steps

Christine Sieger

Remediation and Redevelopment Program Director

Request For Information Letters

- DNR has not named a responsible party
- DNR sent Request for Information letters
 - Type and quantity of PFAS-containing solid waste
 - Where PFAS-containing solid waste was disposed
 - Identity of related corporations
- Information indicates these entities may land apply or may have previously land applied solid waste in the area

Superfund

- Federal contamination cleanup program with state involvement
- DNR completed a preliminary assessment for Stella
- First step of a 3- to 4-year process
- Not obligated to proceed with Superfund process

DNR's Online Database Of Cleanup Sites

- Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment Tracking System (BRRTS) on the Web (BOTW)
- Search:
 - In web browser: "Wisconsin DNR"
 - On DNR's webpage: "BOTW"
 - In BOTW: Activity - "Town of Stella"

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

**ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP & BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT
BRRTS ON THE WEB**

» SEARCH » RESULTS » ACTIVITY

Click the Location Name or FID below to view the Location Details page. If additional Activities are present at this location, they may be accessed from Location Details.

ACTIVITY DETAILS

02-44-591257 TOWN OF STELLA PFAS

Activity Type / Status		Jurisdiction		
ERP / OPEN		DNR RR		
Location Name		County	DNR Region	
TOWN OF STELLA PFAS		ONEIDA	NORTHERN	
Address		Municipality		
CTH C AND STELLA LAKE RD		STARKS		
PLSS Description	Latitude (wgs84)	Longitude (wgs84)	Google Maps	
NE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Sec 27, T37N, R10E	45.6629156	-89.2220738	CLICK TO VIEW	
Additional Activity Details			Acres	
			UNKNOWN	
Facility ID	PECCA No.	EPA ID	Start Date	
			2023-01-19	
Characteristics				
Above Ground Petrol Tank	Drycleaner	EPA NPL Site	EPA Superfund	
			PECCA Funds Eligible	
			PFAS	
			ROW Impact	
			Sediments	
			Underground Petrol Tank	
			WI DOT Site	
Actions and Documents				
Date	Code	Name	File	Comment
2024-04-15	43	Site Activity Status Update Received		RESULTS FROM PRIVATE WELL AAK072
2024-03-28	43	Site Activity Status Update Received		POST-TREATMENT RESULTS FROM PRIVATE WELL CZ393

PFAS Contamination and Wisconsin Farms

The DNR is committed to working with farmers and communities



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Community Engagement



CONNECT WITH US

(888) 626-0605
DNRStellaPFAS@wisconsin.gov



@WIDNR



@WI_DNR



/WIDNRTV



"WILD WISCONSIN:
OFF THE RECORD"