Baytown Township Well Water Contamination Summary (March 2025)

TCE (Trichloroethylene)

History: TCE is a Volatile Organic Chemical (VOC) that was often used for degreasing metal parts since the 1940s. It was first found in Baytown's groundwater in 1987. The Baytown Township Groundwater Contamination and Special Well Construction Area (SWCA) (7 sq. miles) were created as superfund sites.

Notes:

1. TCE is a nonflammable, colorless liquid found in products including wood finishes, adhesives, paint removers, and stain removers. It can easily move from soil to groundwater and evaporate into air that can enter your home.
2. TCE is a human carcinogen and has been linked to immune system defects plus blood and kidney cancer.
3. TCE contamination in groundwater is mainly confined to areas near industrial sources or old unregulated dumpsites. In the east metro the dumpsite was near Hagberg's in Lake Elmo.
4. Water filters containing activated carbon have been shown to be effective at removing TCE.
5. The MPCA monitors the boundary of the TCE contaminated wells and will generally NOT provide free TCE testing if you are outside the boundary. Every 2 years they retest wells close to the boundary edge and adjust the map.

Baytown Township Groundwater contamination Site: https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/hazardous/sites/baytown.html
Baytown Website Well Advisory: https://baytownmn.org/services/well_advisory.php
MN Groundwater Contamination Atlas: Minnesota Groundwater Contamination Atlas

PFAS (Per- & Polyfluoroalkyl substances)

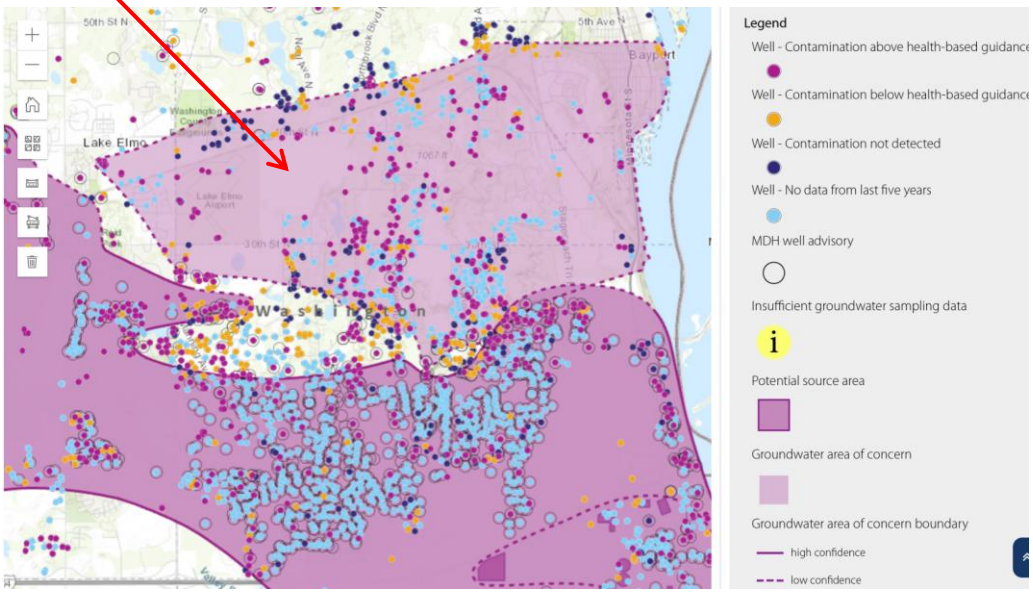
History: PFAS are a family of human-made chemicals that have been widely used since the 1950s. MPCA began investigating well water contamination in 2002. MN passed a number of laws in the past few years to reduce the use of PFAS in products. The East Metro PFAS Superfund Site (130 sq. miles) was established in 2018.

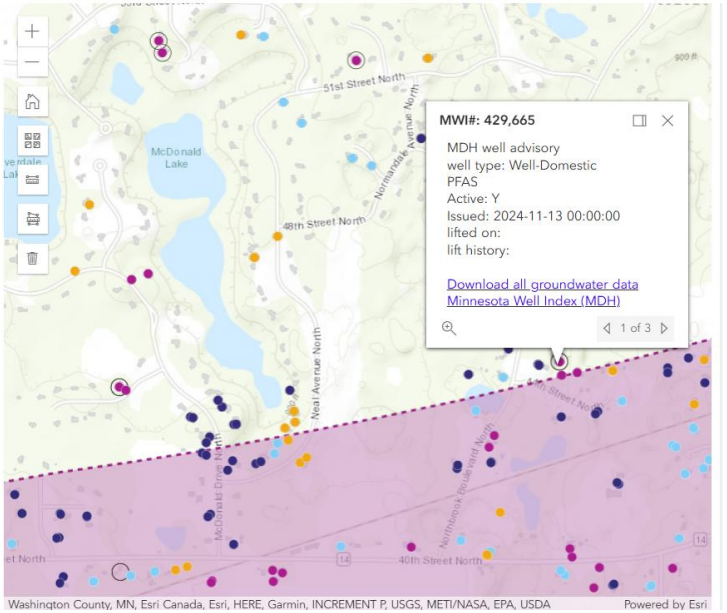
Notes:

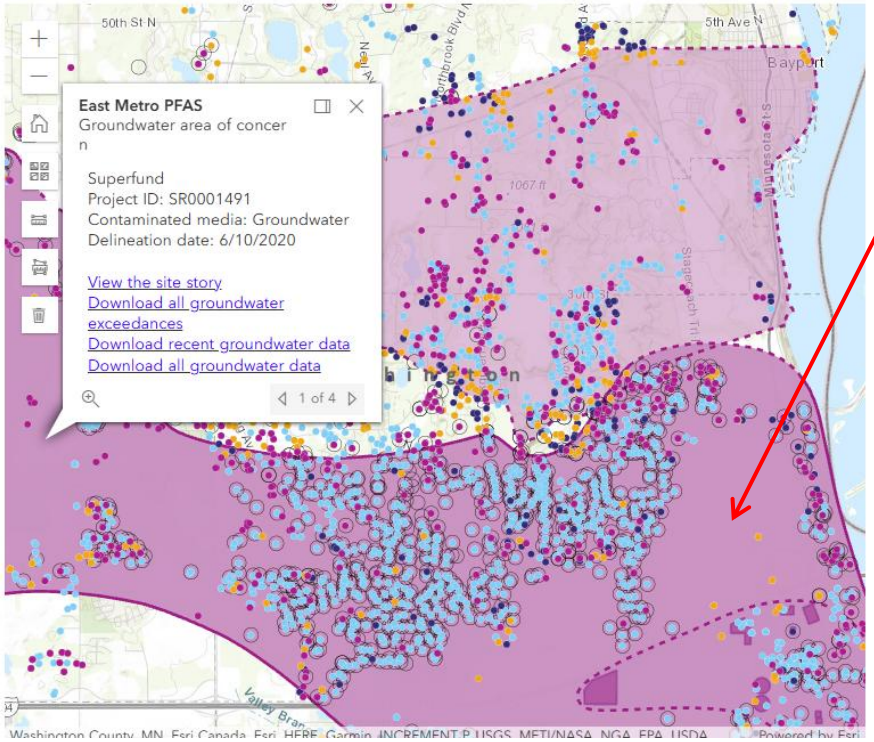
1. The PFAS water test provides results for 6 different compounds: PFOS, PFOA, PFBA, PFHxA, PFHxS, and PFBS. Water test form: https://webapp.pca.state.mn.us/gw-sampling-req/
2. Water filters containing activated carbon or reverse-osmosis membranes have been shown to be effective at removing PFAS.
3. Products that are grease, oil, non-stick, or stain-resistant are a greater source of PFAS exposure than the amount found in drinking water.
4. Blood testing has shown that PFAS levels have decreased in the past 25 years.
5. Health impacts include: ↓vaccine response, liver enzyme changes, low birth weight, and kidney cancer after lifetime exposure.
6. Property owners in Baytown may request a free PFAS well water test to monitor its spread. Free carbon filters will be provided if elevated levels are detected.

MDH: https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/hazardous/topics/pfashealth.html
MPCA: https://www.pca.state.mn.us/pfas-in-minnesota
How to prevent exposure: PFAS chemical exposure | ATSDR (cdc.gov)
PFAS contamination map: https://mpca.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=4ab8c82e20c24182b56f6b608d42a602&extent=-93.1182,44.8076,-92.7378,44.9861
Water test form: https://webapp.pca.state.mn.us/gw-sampling-req/
MDH video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FhADeS8L1Wo
map: Minnesota Groundwater Contamination Atlas

MN Groundwater Contamination Atlas views:
The 7 square mile TCE SWBCA is approximately bounded on the north by 50th Street and on the south by 20th Street







East Metro PFAS - Superfund Site covers large areas of Washington County