



## Wells at 21 properties contaminated



Several property owners on Monocacy Creek Road in Amity Township will be required to abandon their water wells and connect to public water.

Unacceptable levels of PCE, known as tetrachloroethylene or perchloroethylene, have been found in the area and the state Department of Environmental Protection is requiring the wells be abandoned.

The logo for Town Square, featuring a stylized tree icon to the left of the text "TOWN SQUARE" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, all on a red background.

- Asap Nursing Services Inc
- Rendi James
- Kolb Steven

A total of 24 properties are affected in the vicinity of Thalia Lane near the Valley View trailer park. The trailer park is already served by public water.

"The PCE levels found in the area were above the allowable level, and the homeowners in the area will have to convert," township Manager Charles Lyon said Wednesday.

The drinking water standard for PCE is 5 parts per billion and readings in the area are as high as 30 ppb, according to DEP project manager Ruth Bishop.

Bishop said that DEP was notified of the situation after a groundwater test on a property in the area tested high and follow-up studies confirmed the presence of the PCE.

The source is hard to determine, Bishop said.

"A lot of these contaminants may have been dumped 30 to 40 years ago and these levels could have been the result of as little as a 5-gallon drum being released on a property in the area," she said.

Commercially, PCE is used for dry cleaning clothes and degreasing metal parts. It also is found in paint strippers and spot removers and moves easily through soil to groundwater.

Property owners will not be charged to connect to Pennsylvania American Water lines but will be charged for water usage. The connections should be completed by year's end.

- By Dan Andrews