

October 2007: Senate approves a defense authorization bill to provide the Secretary of the Navy to notify Camp Lejeune residents/workers that they may have been exposed to contaminated drinking water. The Marine Corps since has taking every effort to reach 100 percent of the residents and former employees that may have been exposed.

September 2007: The Marine Corps activates the Camp Lejeune Water Study Call Center with a toll-free number ((877) 261-9782) and web-based notification registry for the public. All former Marines, family members and civilian employees who resided or worked aboard the base before 1987 are encouraged to register.

June 12, 2007: Congressional members of the House Energy and Commerce Sub Committee on Oversight and Investigations host a hearing with activists to determine if the Marine Corps could have done more in terms of notification and reaching the estimated 500 thousand persons that may have been exposed to contaminated water over a period of 30 years.

May 2007: The completed GAO report concludes that ATSDR's work was not delayed or hindered by DOD despite difficulties and disagreements regarding the availability of information. Additionally, the reporter documents three federal inquiries into this issue (the Commandant's Panel, the EPA's Criminal Investigation Division/Department of Justice, and EPA's Office of the Inspector General) concluded that federal officials' actions were generally appropriate but criticized some of the actions by DoD officials, such as inadequate communication.

October 2006: FY07 Secretary of the Navy NAV mandates agreement with National Academy of Science and guidance on notification.

February 2006: ATSDR Community Assistance Panel (CAP) convenes in Atlanta, GA, for regularly scheduled quarterly meetings.

October 2004: Fiscal Year 2005 Authorization Act mandates the General Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a study regarding the Camp Lejeune drinking water issue.

March 2004: Commandant charters Panel to review facts and decisions (independent of Marine Corps) surrounding decisions made following 1980 discovery of VOCs.
The panel determined that the notification to residents regarding contamination in the wells at the time of closure did not fully characterize the contaminant levels.

July 2003: ATSDR releases a progress report of the survey and concluded that a follow-on case control/epidemiological study were warranted. The Marine Corps publicized this report through a press release, a web cast by the Deputy

Commandant for Installations and Logistics. They also posted survey information on the Marine Corps Camp Lejeune drinking water web page.

January 2002: ATSDR began its analysis of survey results with 12,598 eligible participants.

April 2001: Headquarters Marine Corps requested approval from the Department of Defense to release to the ATSDR the social security numbers of potential survey participants.

February 2001: Regional media outreach efforts begins, and outlets reached included:

TV Stations - 1027 outlets
Daily Newspapers - 1373 outlets
Weekly Newspapers - 1171 outlets
Total: 3571 media outlets contacted

January 25, 2001: Headquarters Marine Corps sends a second message to all Marines worldwide in an effort to reach potential ATSDR survey participants.

July 2001: Headquarters Marine Corps receives approval from DoD for a limited release of Social Security Number information covered by the Privacy Act to the ATSDR in order to support the ATSDR's survey participant location efforts. Based on extensive data searches by Headquarters Marine Corps, contact information for the names of potential survey participants was identified and forwarded to the ATSDR.

August 2000: Headquarters Marine Corps sent a message to all Marines worldwide in an effort to reach potential ATSDR survey participants. Additionally, the Marine Corps reached out to Marine Corps and other services' military newspapers. In November 2000, Headquarters Marine Corps held a press brief at the Pentagon asking media to assist in helping to reach survey participants.

January 2000: The Marine Corps played an active role in assisting ATSDR in identifying children eligible for the survey through both targeted and global notifications. The Marine Corps held an "open house" at Camp Lejeune with base residents and the Jacksonville community to discuss issues about the drinking water previously discovered to contain VOCs.

March 1992: The ATSDR makes its first site visit to Camp Lejeune as part of its statutory duty to conduct a public health assessment (PHA). In 1997, the ATSDR published its public health assessment (PHA) for Camp Lejeune. In the PHA, the ATSDR concluded that the Volatile Organic Compound-impacted water would not likely harm adults; however, they recommended an epidemiological study of former Camp Lejeune residents to determine what effect, if any, the

VOCs may have had on the health of children in the womb. This population was considered by the ATSDR to be the most susceptible population to health impacts from VOCs. The ATSDR study began as a health survey in September 1999.

May 1985: Marine Corps distributes a press release announcing the water contamination and the steps to be taken to restore water services to the effected base residents.

April 1985: The Marine Corps distributes a public notice to residents of Tarawa Terrace regarding the quality of the water and the status of the distribution center.

Dec 13 1984: Marine Corps releases its first press release to reach out to the military members and their families who may have been impacted by contaminated water aboard the base prior to 1984.

The following chronology of events is part of the [final GAO report](#).

September 15, 1985: An article was published in a third North Carolina newspaper that provided similar information as that included in the May 9, 1985, base newspaper article regarding the contamination in the Tarawa Terrace and Hadnot Point water systems.

May 31, 1985 - Camp Lejeune officials sent a memorandum to Headquarters Marine Corps and LANTDIV noting that all 10 contaminated wells remained out of service, although 1 of the contaminated wells at Tarawa Terrace had been used on April 22, 23, and 29 to maintain water production.

May 11, 1985: An article was published in a second North Carolina newspaper providing similar information as that included in the May 9, 1985, base newspaper article regarding the contamination in the Tarawa Terrace and Hadnot Point water systems.

May 10, 1985: An article was published in a North Carolina newspaper providing similar information as that included in the May 9, 1985, base newspaper article regarding the contamination in the Tarawa Terrace and Hadnot Point water systems.

May 9, 1985: An article was published in the base newspaper explaining that 10 wells that served the Tarawa Terrace and Hadnot Point water systems were removed from service because of contamination. The article also noted the potential for water shortages in the Tarawa Terrace water system and included information about how to conserve water.

April 30, 1985: The Commanding General of Camp Lejeune issued a notice to the residents of Tarawa Terrace housing area regarding problems with the water supply. According to the notice, two of the wells that supplied water to the

Tarawa Terrace water system were taken off line because “minute (trace)” amounts of several organic chemicals were detected in the water. The notice stated that there were no regulations regarding safe levels of the organic chemicals found in these wells, but as a precaution the Commanding General had ordered the wells to be removed from service in all but emergency situations. Additionally, the notice provided ways for residents to reduce water usage because of concerns that a water shortage might result following the removal of these wells from service.

March 12, 1985: According to an internal Camp Lejeune memorandum, one of the wells removed from service on February 8, 1985, was restarted on March 11, 1985, after samples were taken. After 24 hours of operation, additional samples were taken and the well was removed from service.

February 8, 1985: The two wells in the Tarawa Terrace water system that were found to be contaminated with TCE and PCE on February 7, 1985, were removed from service. Additionally, the two wells in the Hadnot Point water system that were found to be contaminated with trace levels of TCE and PCE on February 4, 1985, were removed from service.

February 7, 1985: Camp Lejeune officials received results of the analysis of the samples collected on January 23, 1985, that indicated that two wells in the Tarawa Terrace water system had levels of TCE and PCE. In one well, TCE was detected at 57 ppb and PCE was detected at 158 ppb. In the other well, TCE was detected at 5.8 ppb and PCE was detected at 132 ppb.

February 4, 1985: The Holcomb Boulevard water treatment plant was restarted.

February 4, 1985: Camp Lejeune officials received results of the analysis of the samples collected on January 31, 1985, from various locations within the Hadnot Point and Holcomb Boulevard water systems. No gasoline was detected in samples from Holcomb Boulevard. However, various levels of TCE were detected in all of the samples; TCE was detected at levels ranging from 24 ppb to 1,148 ppb.

February 4, 1985: Camp Lejeune officials received results of the analysis of the samples collected on January 16, 1985, that indicated one additional well in the Hadnot Point water system had significant levels of TCE and PCE, among other VOCs. TCE was detected at 3,200 ppb and PCE was detected at 386 ppb. This well was removed from service. The results also noted that trace amounts of TCE were detected in two other Hadnot Point wells. In one well, TCE was detected at 9 ppb and in the other well TCE was detected at 5.5 ppb. January 31, 1985 -Samples were collected at various locations within the Hadnot Point and Holcomb Boulevard water systems for analysis required by North Carolina prior to restarting the Holcomb Boulevard water treatment plant.

January 27, 1985: A fuel line from Holcomb Boulevard water treatment plant leaked fuel into the water system. The Holcomb Boulevard water treatment plant was subsequently shut down and water from the Hadnot Point water system was pumped into the Holcomb Boulevard water lines.

January 23, 1985: Samples were collected at all wells serving four other water systems, including Tarawa Terrace, to be tested for VOCs.

January 16, 1985: Samples were collected at all wells serving the Hadnot Point and Holcomb Boulevard water systems to be tested for VOCs.

January 8, 1985: The director of the NACIP program at Camp Lejeune received a report reviewing the December 1984 sampling of wells, untreated water, and treated water at the Hadnot Point water system. In the report, sampling of all the wells and the water treatment plants at Camp Lejeune was proposed.

December 21, 1984: Camp Lejeune officials received the results of the analysis of samples that were collected from December 13 to December 19, 1984, at the Hadnot Point water treatment plant. TCE and PCE were not detected in these samples.

December 14, 1984: Camp Lejeune officials received results of the analysis of samples collected on December 10, 1984, that indicated two additional wells in the Hadnot Point water system had significant levels of a VOC, methylene chloride, while a third well also indicated levels of methylene chloride. TCE and PCE were not detected in these wells. Two of these three wells were removed from service.

December 13, 1984: The base newspaper published its first article about water testing, VOC contamination, and corrective actions taken by base officials, including removing wells from service. The article did not identify TCE or PCE as the VOC contaminants.
December 13, 1984 through December 19, 1984 -Separately, daily samples were collected from the untreated water at the Hadnot Point water treatment plant.

December 10, 1984: Samples were again collected from the same seven Hadnot Point wells and the treated water at the Hadnot Point water treatment plant.

December 10, 1984: A Camp Lejeune official contacted a North Carolina state environmental official by telephone to discuss suspected contamination found in wells, untreated water, and treated water from the Hadnot Point water system. The Camp Lejeune official explained Camp Lejeune anticipated that a re-sampling program would be initiated, and indicated that some form of information might be released to the public.

December 6, 1984: Camp Lejeune officials received results of the analysis of samples collected on December 4, 1984, that indicated three additional wells and the untreated and treated water from the Hadnot Point water system had levels of TCE and PCE, among other VOCs. In one of the wells, TCE was detected at 210 parts per billion (ppb) and PCE was detected at 5 ppb. In the second well, TCE was detected at 110 ppb. In the third well, TCE was detected at 4.6 ppb. The first two wells were removed from service.

December 4, 1984: Water samples were collected from six Hadnot Point wells and from the untreated and treated water at the Hadnot Point water treatment plant. These wells were sampled because of their proximity to the contaminated well that was removed from service on November 30, 1984.

November 30, 1984: Camp Lejeune officials received results from the confirmation study sampling which detected trichloroethylene (TCE) and tetrachloroethylene (PCE), among other volatile organic compounds (VOC), at a well serving the Hadnot Point water system, one of eight water systems at Camp Lejeune. This well was removed from service.

July 1984: Camp Lejeune initiated the Navy Assessment and Control of Installation Pollutants (NACIP) a confirmation study. The purpose of the confirmation study was to further investigate potential contamination at 22 priority sites at Camp Lejeune that were identified in an initial assessment study. As part of the confirmation study, sampling began at any well in the vicinity of a priority site where groundwater contamination was suspected. Prior water samples at Camp Lejeune had usually been drawn at the water treatment plants or in the distribution system—not from individual wells.

September 16, 1983 - The private laboratory report of the results of the analysis of samples collected on August 25 and August 26, 1983, from all eight water systems for TTHM testing was provided to Camp Lejeune officials. The report stated that all samples from Tarawa Terrace exhibited contamination from PCE and all samples from Hadnot Point exhibited contamination from both TCE and PCE.

December 21, 1982: An environmental official at Camp Lejeune wrote a memorandum to her supervisor about the TTHM analysis from November 1982. She noted that during a telephone conversation with a chemist at the private laboratory, the chemist had expressed concerns over the solvents that interfered with the Tarawa Terrace and Hadnot Point samples, particularly those from Hadnot Point. According to the memorandum, the chemist told the Camp Lejeune official that while the levels of TCE and PCE had dropped for a period of time, the November samples showed levels of TCE and PCE that were relatively high again.

December 9, 1982: The private laboratory report of the results of the analysis of samples collected in November from all eight water systems for quarterly TTHM

testing was provided to Camp Lejeune officials. This report stated that all samples from Tarawa Terrace indicated contamination from PCE and all samples from Hadnot Point indicated contamination from TCE and PCE.

August 19, 1982: A Camp Lejeune environmental official sent a memorandum to her supervisor that discussed the TTHM sampling and interference at the Tarawa Terrace and Hadnot Point water systems. She explained that the additional samples had been collected on July 28, 1982, to identify the source of the interference in the earlier TTHM testing; TCE and PCE were identified as the interfering chemicals. The official detailed the possible adverse health effects from both TCE and PCE, but further explained that TCE and PCE were not regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act. However, she noted that the EPA had issued “suggested no adverse response levels” and “suggested action guidance,” which provided some guidance on unregulated contaminants. The official explained that levels of TCE and PCE detected in the Hadnot Point water system were presently within the limits suggested by the suggested no adverse response levels, but she offered no explanation for the higher level detected in samples taken in May 1982 and analyzed in July 1982. She also noted that it was possible that the levels of PCE detected in the Tarawa Terrace water system were the result of the use of asbestos-coated pipe in the water lines carrying untreated water.

August 18, 1982: Camp Lejeune officials decided to reduce monitoring for TTHMs from monthly to quarterly for six of the eight water systems, including Tarawa Terrace and Hadnot Point, beginning in September 1982. Officials noted in a memorandum that federal and state regulations required only quarterly sampling.

August 10, 1982: The private laboratory sent a letter to Camp Lejeune officials stating that the contaminants interfering with the TTHM monitoring at the Tarawa Terrace and Hadnot Point water systems were TCE and tetrachloroethylene (PCE).c The laboratory noted that these chemicals appeared to be at high levels and were thus more important from a health standpoint than the TTHM levels. The laboratory further noted that the levels of PCE detected in the Tarawa Terrace water system had been relatively stable over the time period examined, while levels of TCE and PCE detected in the Hadnot Point water system had varied, and the most recent Hadnot Point readings had been at significantly lower levels than the levels detected in May.

July 28, 1982: Camp Lejeune environmental officials collected samples, which were in addition to the monthly samples, from the Hadnot Point and Tarawa Terrace water systems. An internal Camp Lejeune memorandum noted that the additional sampling was conducted because the private laboratory identified interference by TCE and another synthetic organic cleaning solvent while analyzing earlier samples from the Hadnot Point and Tarawa Terrace water systems for TTHMs.

July 13, 1982: The private laboratory report of the results of the analysis of monthly samples collected June 24 and June 25, 1982, did not specifically note interference with the testing for TTHMs at the Hadnot Point water system, but, as in previous reports, noted that there was some uncertainty in the measurements for this water system.

June 9, 1982: The private laboratory report of the results of the analysis of monthly samples collected May 27 and May 28, 1982, noted that an unknown compound was interfering with the testing for TTHMs at the Hadnot Point water system.

May 27 & May 28, 1982: Camp Lejeune environmental officials took a second set of monthly water samples at the base water systems because of problems with the collection of earlier samples taken from May 17 through May 24, 1982.

May 6, 1982: A private laboratory contracted by Camp Lejeune to conduct the TTHM analysis informed Camp Lejeune by telephone that synthetic organic cleaning solvents, including trichloroethylene (TCE),^b were detected in the samples that were collected from April 19 to April 22, 1982, from the Tarawa Terrace and Hadnot Point water systems. Grainger Laboratory stated that TCE interference with the analysis of the Hadnot Point samples prevented the detection of a precise reading for TTHMs.

April 19, 1982: Camp Lejeune environmental officials began collecting monthly samples for monitoring of total trihalomethanes (TTHMs) at all eight base water systems.

August 26, 1981: The Commander of LANTDIV wrote a memorandum to the Commanding General of Camp Lejeune noting that in accordance with Camp Lejeune's request, it was providing the summary of TTHM regulations and copies of the TTHM testing reports for the two water systems that met the requirement to be tested.

July 31, 1981: The Commander of LANTDIV wrote a memorandum to the Commanding General of Camp Lejeune that described the analyses of the additional water samples taken from the Rifle Range area. The official noted that of the organic contaminants detected at the Rifle Range area, only one, a TTHM, had an established regulation with a maximum contaminant level though it did not apply to the Rifle Range water system because this system did not serve more than 10,000 people. The official noted that LANTDIV would add the Rifle Range water system to the TTHM testing that had been initiated in 1980. Additionally, he suggested no further action be taken until the Navy Assessment and Control of Installation Pollutants program and TTHM analysis provided additional data. According to a handwritten note at the end of the memorandum, an environmental official at Camp Lejeune recommended arranging a meeting with the state in order to share these results.

May 29, 1981: According to the private laboratory report sent to LANTDIV, an analysis of water samples collected on May 20, 1981, from treated water in the Rifle Range water system and from areas surrounding the Rifle Range chemical dump detected VOCs in the treated water at the Rifle Range water system and also detected VOCs, including TCE, in areas surrounding the Rifle Range chemical dump.

May 8, 1981: The Commander of LANTDIV wrote a memorandum to the Commanding General of Camp Lejeune that recommended resampling the Rifle Range area because of variation in the results from the April 7 and April 16 analysis reports. LANTDIV noted that three contaminants were detected in the treated and untreated water in the Rifle Range water system. Two of these contaminants, methylene chloride and TCE, were not regulated and the third chemical, a TTHM, was detected at levels within the new regulatory standards. The LANTDIV official noted that no imminent threat to human health was presented by consumption of water from the Rifle Range water system.

April 16, 1981: According to the private laboratory report sent to LANTDIV, an analysis of water samples collected on April 10, 1981, was conducted from the untreated water in the wells that served the Rifle Range water system, from treated water from the Rifle Range water system, and from areas surrounding the Rifle Range chemical dump. VOCs, including TCE and PCE, were detected in water samples from the areas surrounding the chemical dump. VOCs, including TCE, were also detected in the well samples. TCE was detected at 1.8 parts per billion in one of the well samples.

April 7, 1981: According to the private laboratory report sent to LANTDIV, an analysis of water samples collected on March 30, 1981, from areas surrounding the Camp Lejeune Rifle Range chemical dump detected VOCs. However, TCE and tetrachloroethylene (PCE) were not among the VOCs detected in these samples.

March 9, 1981: Handwritten notes from a USAEHA official on a USAEHA report indicated that water samples collected on March 9, 1981, for analysis for TTHMs at the Hadnot Point water system were “highly contaminated” with other chlorinated hydrocarbons.

February 9, 1981: Handwritten notes from a USAEHA official on a USAEHA report indicated continued interference with the TTHM analysis of samples collected on January 30, 1980, for the Hadnot Point water system, and recommended conducting analyses for chlorinated organics.

January 22, 1981: Handwritten notes from a USAEHA official on a USAEHA report indicated that continued interference with the TTHM analysis of samples collected on December 29, 1980, for the Hadnot Point water system, and recommended conducting analyses for chlorinated organics.

October 31, 1980: A report from USAEHA of the results of the analysis of samples collected on October 21, 1980, contained a USAEHA official's handwritten notes which indicated unidentified chlorinated hydrocarbons were interfering with the testing for TTHMs at the Hadnot Point water system.

October 31, 1980: A LANTDIV-contracted private laboratory reported results from the samples collected on October 1, 1980, from all eight water systems at Camp Lejeune. The results, sent to LANTDIV, indicated that 11 volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were detected, including trichloroethylene (TCE).^b All VOCs detected in this analysis were identified at their detection limits, which were the lowest level at which the chemicals could be reliably identified by the instruments being used.

October 21 & October 24, 1980: At the direction of LANTDIV, Camp Lejeune collected separate samples to be analyzed for total trihalomethanes (TTHMs) at two base water systems, Hadnot Point and New River. LANTDIV arranged for the U.S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency (USAEHA) laboratory to conduct the testing.

October 1, 1980: An official with the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Atlantic Division (LANTDIV), collected samples from all eight water systems at Camp Lejeune to be combined into a single sample and analyzed in order to detect any potential contaminants in the water systems.