

# States/EPA Meeting on PFAs

Quinsigamond Community College  
Worcester, MA  
May 23, 2016

## Vermont Experience

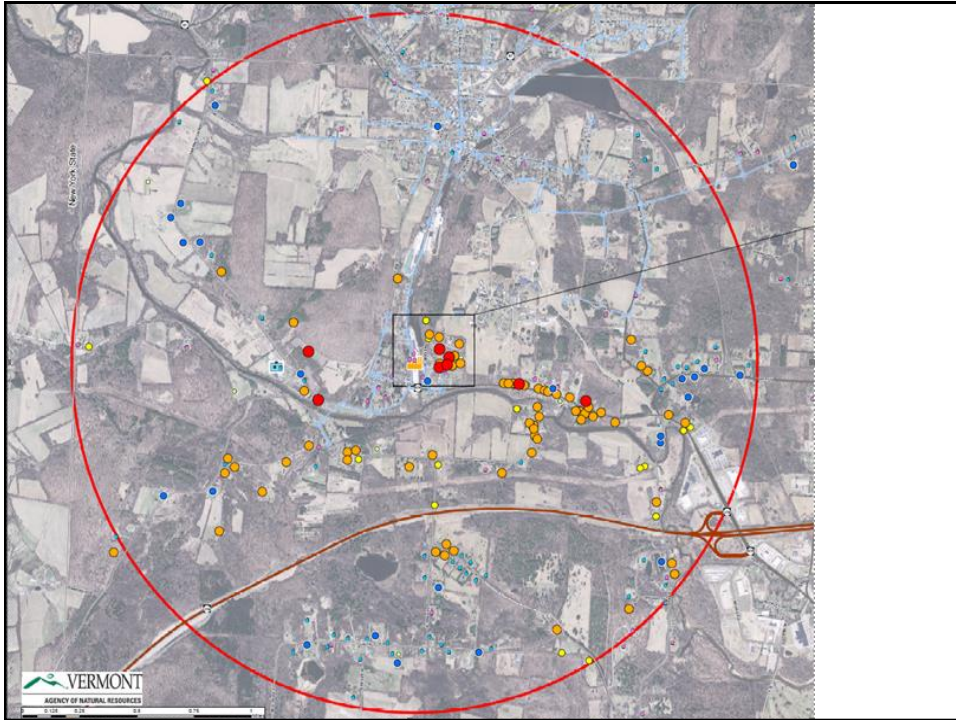
Review current sites with PFAs

- North Bennington/Bennington/Pownal

Review Statewide Plan

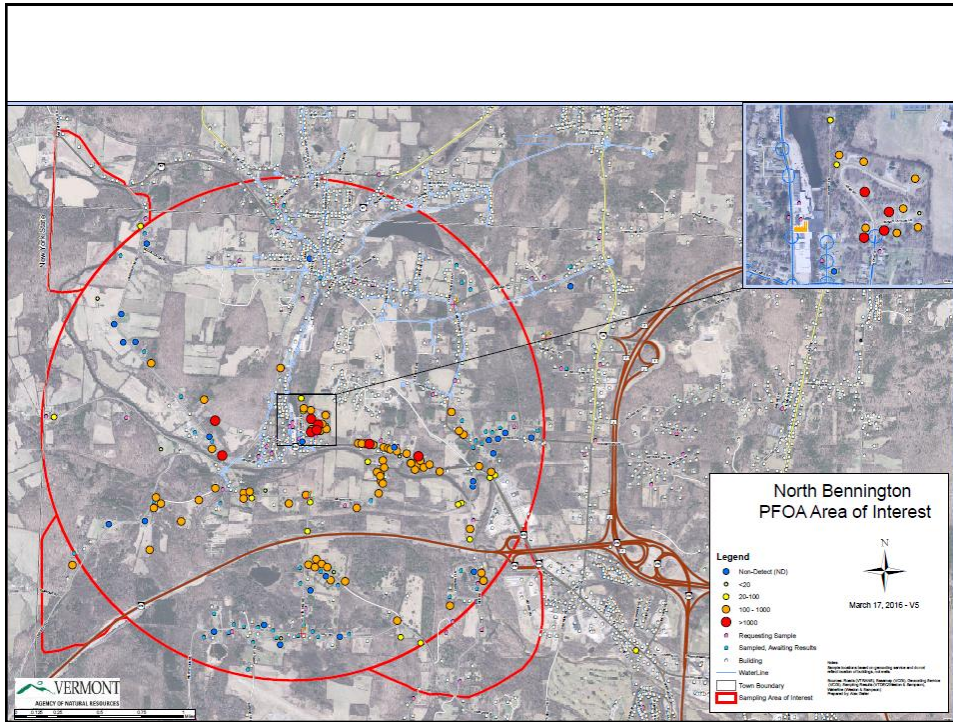
Review challenges

Share lessons learned



## Initial PFOA Results

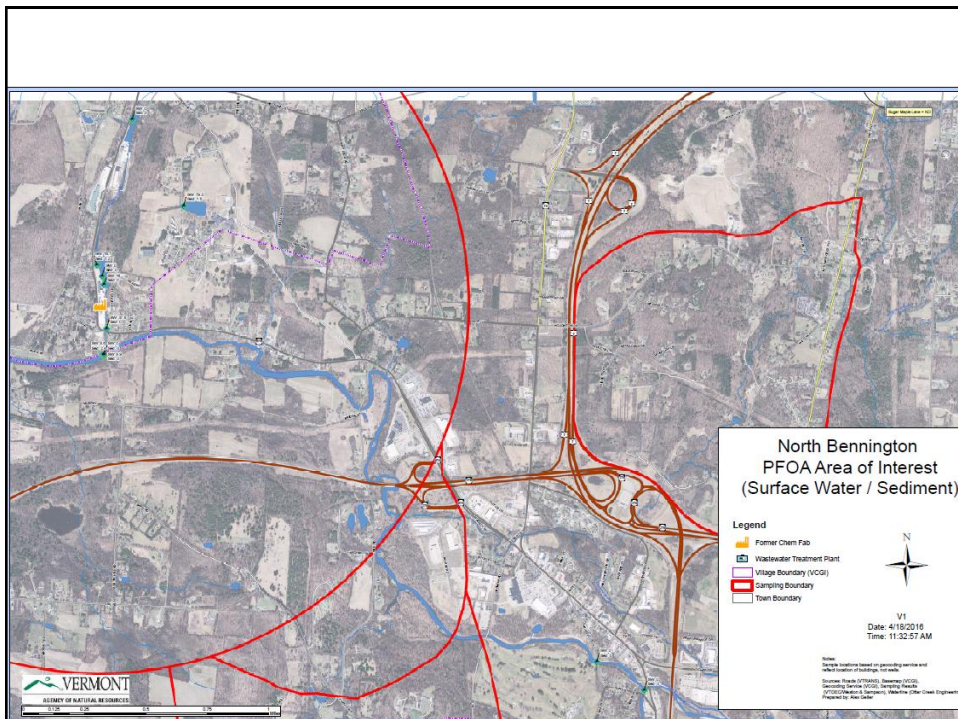
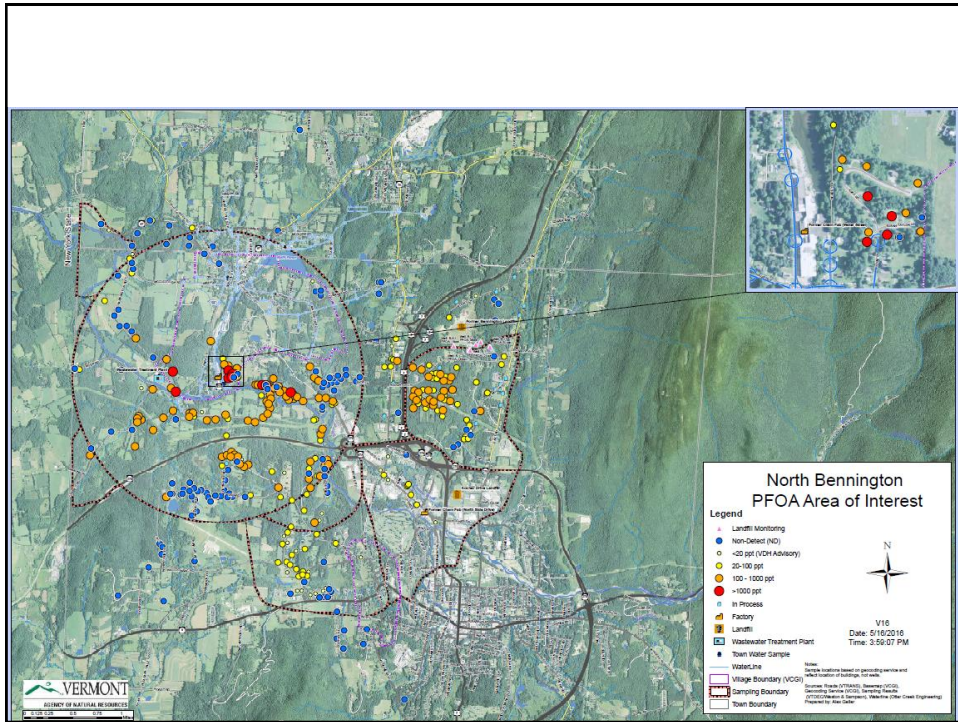
- 50 samples
- 22 results : ND
- 9 results : 0–20 ppt
- 8 results : 20–100 ppt
- 11 results : > 100 ppt



## Current PFOA Results

- 424 samples
- 144 results : ND (34%)
- 54 results : 0–20 ppt (13%)
- 93 results : 20–100 ppt (22%)
- 133 results : > 100 ppt (31%)





## Surface Water/Sediment Results

- Surface Water (10 samples)
  - Results ranged from ND – 79 ppt
- Sediment (7 samples)
  - 4 samples ND
  - 3 samples ranged from 1.2 – 2.4 ppb
- Results show no risk to human health or most sensitive aquatic species
- Fish Tissue samples collected, results pending



## Soil Results

- Collected over 100 samples
  - Results ranged from ND – 45 ppb
  - Majority of results < 10 ppb
- VDH soil screening level : 300 ppb
- Surface soil remediation deemed not necessary

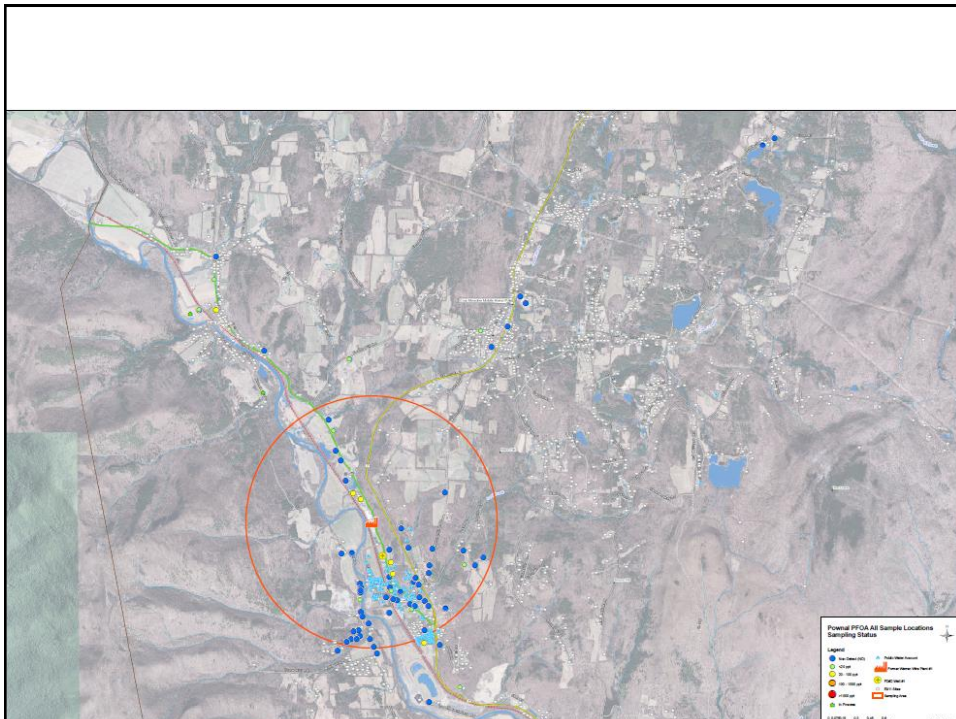
## Gardening and Farming

- Do not expect to find measurable levels of PFOA in produce
- Recommendations
  - Use clean water for irrigation
  - Amend soil with clean compost
  - Wash your produce after harvest
  - Peel root vegetables
- Livestock
  - Should be given clean water
- Maple Syrup Tested free of PFOA !



## Sludge and Septage Sampling

- Collected sludge samples from WWTP and septic tanks
  - Results from WWTP influent 350 ppt
  - 5 pressed sludge samples from WWTP
    - Average 8 ppb
    - Two samples pending
- 3 septic tank samples pending
- Plans to sample local compost operation



## Statewide PFOA Response

- Reviewed limited state information on use of PFAs
- Prioritized industries to target
  - Semiconductor, wire coating, fire fighting training centers
- Also prioritized based on sensitive receptors (# of drinking water wells within ½ mile of facility)
- Phased sampling over 4–8 week period

## Challenges to PFOA Response

- Magnitude of effected area
- Developing health advisory levels for water, soil, crops, fish, etc.
- Messaging of health advisory level in Vermont
- Understanding the fate and transport
- Presence of Arsenic from point-of-entry treatment systems
- Superfund sites – do we reopen?



## Lessons Learned

- 2-1-1 support
- Importance of immediate public meetings
- Weekly emails to community
- Importance of establishing clear Incident Command Structure
- Importance of reaching out to neighboring states

## Thank you

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