

**INCIDENT:** E. Coli Bacteria Found in Winslow Township Water Supply  
**LOCATION:** Winslow Township, New Jersey  
**SOURCE:** The Inquirer  
**DATE OF INCIDENT:** 11/1/2010

Residents of Winslow Township in lower Camden County are being advised to boil drinking water or use bottled water and keep their children home from public school after E. coli bacteria was found during a routine sampling. "It was not our wells. Our wells tested fine," Mike Minniti, a manager with the township water department, said on Sunday. "We are still trying to find the culprit here." Minniti said officials were looking at businesses in the area to make sure backflow preventers, a possible source of contamination, are functioning correctly. The township tests its water 40 times a month. In early October, a slight rise in the total coliform level was detected, but it did not exceed federal standards until Friday, Minniti said. He said the contaminated samples were from the Sicklerville area. Only residents using township water are affected. The problem does not involve private wells, Minniti said. Symptoms related to E. coli contamination include diarrhea, cramps, nausea, and headaches. The very young and the very old, as well as people with severely compromised immune systems, are most at risk of illness, according to the township website.