



PASSAIC VALLEY WATER COMMISSION
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November 19, 2021

UPDATE REGARDING TREATMENT FOR ELEVATED PER-AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFOS) LEVELS IN THE POSTBROOK SERVICE AREA (NOSENZO POND) COMMUNITY

On September 15th, Arcadis Engineering was hired for engineering services at the Nosenzo Pond Wellhouse for treatment of PFOS. Arcadis will provide the following services:

1. Evaluate treatment options for the removal of PFOS
2. Recommend, design, and install a temporary treatment system for PFOS removal
3. Recommend and design a permanent treatment facility that target PFOS, *and* manganese and chloride removal, improving the overall water quality provided to the Postbrook Service Area (Nosenzo Pond) Community.

As of mid-November, PVWC and Arcadis have accomplished the following:

1. Wetlands delineation and site survey- Completed October 2021
2. Selection of temporary treatment to install- Completed October 2021
3. Submission of Temporary Treatment Permit to NJDEP- Completed November 10, 2021

Next steps:

1. Awaiting NJDEP approval of Temporary Treatment Permit.
2. Once the Permit has been approved components for the temporary treatment system will be ordered. A vendor has already been identified.
3. Installation of temporary treatment is targeted for late winter/early spring 2022.
4. Design of permanent treatment system at the Nosenzo Pond Wellhouse.

Many of our customers have asked if home filters can remove PFOS. Water filtration units that use granular activated carbon (GAC, also called charcoal filters) or reverse osmosis (RO) can both be effective in removing the PFAS. For countertop or under the sink filters look for NSF (www.nsf.org) certified filtration units. NSF is a global, independent organization that tests, audits and certifies products, including drinking water filters for removal of contaminants. If using a home water filter please change your filters regularly as per the manufacturer's recommendation.

Currently, there are no water pitcher filters that are certified by NSF to remove PFOS. A recent study conducted by the PVWC Laboratory found excellent removal using the ZeroWater Pitcher, while the Pur Maxion and Brita pitchers removed some but not all PFOS. Very poor removal was observed with the ZeroWater ECO Pitcher. PVWC recommends using caution with these filters and makes no endorsement towards the above products.

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