PASSAIC VALLEY WATER COMMISSION
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UPDATE REGARDING TREATMENT FOR ELEVATED PERFLUOROOCTANE SULFONIC ACID (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 targets PFOS, *and* manganese and chloride removal, improving the overall water quality provided to the Postbrook Service Area (Nosenzo Pond) Community.

As of mid-May, 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
4. Approval of Temporary Treatment Permit- Completed January 11, 2022
5. Purchase order issued for emergency procurement of temporary treatment system- Completed February 10, 2022
6. Development of conceptual design for the permanent treatment system – March 2022
7. Received bids from contractors to install temporary treatment system – April 2022

Next steps:

1. Installation of temporary treatment is targeted for late summer 2022. This is, unfortunately, later than we hoped. Current lead times for treatment components from the vendor are 10 – 20 weeks.
2. Design and implementation 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 PFOS. 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.