

Status Updates regarding the PFOA/PFOS Concentration Levels

Updated 11/12/2020

PFOA/PFOS Water Advisory Lifted

Effective 11/12/2020 the Georgia EPD has lifted the City of Summerville PFOA/PFOS health advisory for all City of Summerville water customers.

After installing the GAC filters at the Raccoon Creek treatment plant, PFAS/PFOS concentration levels through the system are safely below the health advisory threshold.

Test Well Status



Picture above. Clearing sediment from the test well during construction.

The City of Summerville first test well is producing 600 gallons (the max capacity of the pump used for testing) of water per minute (GPM) at a depth of 364ft. This well will still need to be developed into a production well, and then connected to the City of Summerville water distribution system upon approval from Georgia EPD. The engineers send plans and specs to the Georgia EPD for approval of all phases of the project.

The City of Summerville Public Works has laid 2,000 feet of 16" pipe on Filter Plant Road in preparation for connecting the new well to the City's water distribution system. Another delivery of 4,000 feet of 16" pipe is expected by September 1st. With the completion of this additional pipe installation on Filter Plant Road, the City will stop at the intersection of Highway 48 until Georgia DOT has approved plans for the installation of another 12,000 feet of 16" pipe to the City's production well site off of Highway 48.

How much has it cost to build the new well so far?



Picture above. City employees installing water line on Filter Plant Road.

As of July 31, 2020 the City has invested \$128,702.75 in the test well.

To reduce the overall cost of the project, the City has self-performed the installation of 2,000 feet of a 16" water line on Filter Plant Road. Another delivery of 4,000 feet of 16" pipe is expected by September 1st.

How much more is it expected to cost to complete the well?

The cost of a production well is undetermined because this will be a bid process. The City is actively pursuing multiple grants and funding for a permanent production well, along with procuring property for additional well sites. Final costs are not known at this time. There is no estimate on the completion date. Funding of the remaining 16" water pipe to the well site is also being pursued.



Picture above. 16" water pipe being delivered for installation.

Carbon Based Pilot Study for Removal of PFOA/PFOS

The City of Summerville is working with a pilot study using carbon as a removal method of PFOA/PFOS at the Raccoon Creek Water Treatment Plant. This system is referred to as granulated activated carbon (GAC). Test results have been promising. As of October 5th, installation has begun on the new GAC filters for Raccoon Creek. The goal is to complete the installation within 3-5 days of starting installation. Once the filters are installed, samples will be collected and tested by a state certified lab.



Materials for the GAC Filters at Racoon Creek.



Installation in progress of new GAC filters.

What was the cause of the August 20th Boil Water Advisory?

Fecal indicators were present in Chattooga County Well #7 and infiltrated into a portion of the City's water distribution system, because we were purchasing water from Chattooga County. With the water from our Lowe Spring Plant and Chattooga Well #7 the City was able to provide water to a section of the water distribution system that was PFAS free. Due to the corrective action of Chattooga County for well #7, the boil water advisory was lifted by the EPD.