

Newburgh: DEC and DOH Timeline of Activities

2015

May: City of Newburgh issues their 2014 Annual Water Quality Report with PFOS contamination identified in Washington Lake.

2016

February: Governor Cuomo forms the Water Quality Rapid Response Team.

March: DEC commences sampling efforts to identify potential source(s) of contamination

April: DOH and DEC continue sampling in watershed; DEC confirms that Brown's Pond is PFOS-free; DOH commences optimization work on the current water system and confirms that an aqueduct connection and pump station are viable alternative water sources.

May: DOH and DEC continue ongoing sampling in watershed and engagement with Newburgh City government. DEC determines that Stewart Air National Guard Base is contributing to high concentrations of PFOS in the watershed via storm water outfalls.

- May 2nd: City begins using Brown's Pond as PFOS-free drinking water source; City Manager declares State of Emergency, which is rescinded the next day.
- May 19th: EPA establishes a lifetime health advisory level of 70 parts-per-trillion (ppt) for PFOS, PFOA individually, or both substances combined.

June: DEC and DOH identify funding sources and contracts for NYC water payments, GAC system, and Brown's Pond pipe/valve infrastructure upgrades. NYSDOT commences investigation.

- June 7th: City switches from Brown's Pond to Catskill Aqueduct.
- June 8th: DEC, DOH, and City begin Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filtration system design
- June 20th: DOH and DEC attend and present status of State actions at public meeting in City of Newburgh with City officials, EPA Administrator Enck and Riverkeeper.
- June 22nd: DOT contractor initiates sampling at Stewart Air National Guard Base under DEC staff oversight.

July: DOT continues to sample at Stewart ANG and Stewart International Airport, design work continues on GAC system and Catskill Aqueduct connection.

- July 26th: DEC advertises for public bid, construction contract for 1.2 million-gallon Contact Tank.
- July 29th: DOT samples soil at Stewart International Airport.
- July 30th: DEC and DOH staff begin to sample private supply wells.

August: DEC lists Stewart Air National Guard Base as Class 2 state Superfund site, names Stewart International Airport as P-site.

- August 8th: Newburgh and DEC enter into contract for reimbursement of costs for purchase of water from the New York City Catskill Aqueduct.
- August 12th: DEC lists the Stewart Air National Guard base as Class 2 state Superfund site, names Stewart International Airport as P site. Demand letter sent to the Department of Defense to perform remedial investigations and develop remedial plans.
- August 15th: DEC advertises for public bid, GAC Contactor Vessel manufacturing contract.

September: Construction on GAC system begins, drawdown of Lake Washington begins, second public meeting held.

- September 14th: DEC advances City \$2.4 million for cost of DEP water from Catskill Aqueduct.
- September 15th: MOU between City and DEC for GAC construction and funding commitment executed.
- September 19th: Construction of 1.2 million-gallon Contact Tank begins, second public meeting held.
- September 20th: Lake Washington Drawdown pumping begins.
- September 29th: Fish sampling in Newburgh area begins.

October: Improvements to Catskill Aqueduct connection begins, DOT investigation results released, biomonitoring (blood testing) program announced.

- October 14th: DOT investigation reports for work done on ANG and Stewart International Airport released.
- October 17th: DOH announces start of biomonitoring program, including blood testing beginning November 1.
- October 18th: DOH results from Town of New Windsor private well testing released to homeowners, bottled water provided.
- October 16th: DEC begins construction of Catskill Aqueduct Tap improvement.
- October 19th: DEC advertises GAC Treatment System construction contract for public bid.
- October 25th: DEC and DOH attend third City of Newburgh public meeting to update the community on the investigation, construction activities and biomonitoring.

November: DOT conducts additional investigation, DEC samples Beaver Dam Lake watershed, DOH begins sampling Beaver Dam Lake private wells, biomonitoring (blood testing) begins. DEC began providing bottled water to impacted residents and evaluating homes for Point of Entry Treatment (POET) systems.

- November 3rd: DOH begins sampling private wells in the Beaver Dam Lake area
- November 9th: DEC Samples Beaver Dam Lake watershed
- November 15th: DOH results from Beaver Dam Lake private well testing released to homeowners, bottled water provided.

December: Catskill Aqueduct connection completed, DOH continues sampling Beaver Dam Lake private wells, biomonitoring (blood testing) continues.

- December 1st: DEC and DOH meet with US National Guard Bureau to determine the scope of their investigation. DEC demands off-site investigation and cessation of contaminant discharges from Recreation Pond.
- December 5th: DEC and DOH attend fourth City of Newburgh public meeting to update the community on the investigation, construction activities and biomonitoring.
- December 28th: DEC places Catskill Aqueduct Tap piped connection to Brown's Pond Pump Station in service.

2017

January: DEC initiates installation of POET systems at impacted residents in the Beaver Dam Lake area.

- January 26th: DEC announces funding for public water supply extensions and hookup of residences with contaminated wells to municipal water supplies .
- DEC initiates connection of impacted residents to existing public water supply lines in the Towns of New Windsor and Newburgh.

February: DEC collects additional surface water samples at Rec Pond and Silver Stream.

March: DEC samples ANGB firehouse, additional surface water samples at Rec Pond are collected, and additional surface water samples in the Beaver Dam Lake watershed were collected.

April: DEC conducts additional surface water investigation in and around Brown's Pond and tributaries.

May: DEC restarts Washington Lake draw-down operations to protect the Washington Lake dam.

July: 18 GAC contactors delivered to the GAC treatment system site for installation in the newly constructed facility. DEC concludes Washington Lake draw-down operations having achieved the desired safe freeboard for the dam spillway.

August: DEC performs full analysis of Washington Lake sediment and surface water for PFAS, 1,4-Dioxane, VOCs, SVOCs, PCBs, Pesticides and Metals.

September: DOT begins collecting pre-design data at Rec Pond. DoD begins their initial site investigation of Stewart ANGB.

October: GAC Treatment system building completed

November: 720,000 pounds of GAC delivered to the GAC treatment facility and installed in the GAC contactors.

- November 27th: DEC personnel present GAC treatment system construction update at City Council meeting.

December: Waterline extension work initiated in the Town of New Windsor

2018

January: DEC begins shake-down of GAC treatment system using Catskill Aqueduct water.

- January 8th: DEC and DOH Deputy Directors attend City of Newburgh Council meeting to inform the Council and public of achievements to date and future plans.

February: DEC in consultation with county and state DOH prepares GAC treatment system demonstration test protocol. DEC and DOT meet with DoD officials to discuss IRM at Rec Pond.

- February 5th: DEC and DOH host a public Availability Session at the City of Newburgh Activities Center.
- DEC begins connecting impacted residents in the Town of New Windsor to recently extended public water supply line.