

SGWASA DIGEST

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The South Granville Water & Sewer Authority began a Pilot Testing program to explore the best solutions for removing PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) from southern Granville County's drinking water supply.

This initiative is part of SGWASA's ongoing efforts to meet new EPA regulations and regular process to combat new water concerns, as they develop, ensuring safe water for the community.

On April 10, 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the final National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for six PFAS.

The Authority has partnered with engineering partner CDM Smith to conduct the pilot testing component of the PFAS Mitigation Program. The program is designed to assess different PFAS removal technologies to find the most effective and cost-efficient solution for SGWASA's water treatment processes.

SGWASA's proactive approach to secure funding for PFAS mitigation efforts led to the submission of two grant applications to the NCDEQ in October 2023. One application requests \$500,000 to support the Pilot Testing program, and the other seeks \$22 million for the engineering design and construction of a permanent PFAS removal solution. The outcome of these applications is expected mid-2025.

The final regulation mandates public water systems monitor for these PFAS, and offers a deadline of 2027 to complete initial monitoring, followed by ongoing compliance monitoring.

Water systems must also provide the public with information on the levels of these PFAS in their drinking water beginning in 2027.

Public water systems have until April 26, 2029, to implement solutions that reduce these PFAS if monitoring shows that drinking water levels exceed the MCLs.

Visit sgwasa.org/pfas for details.

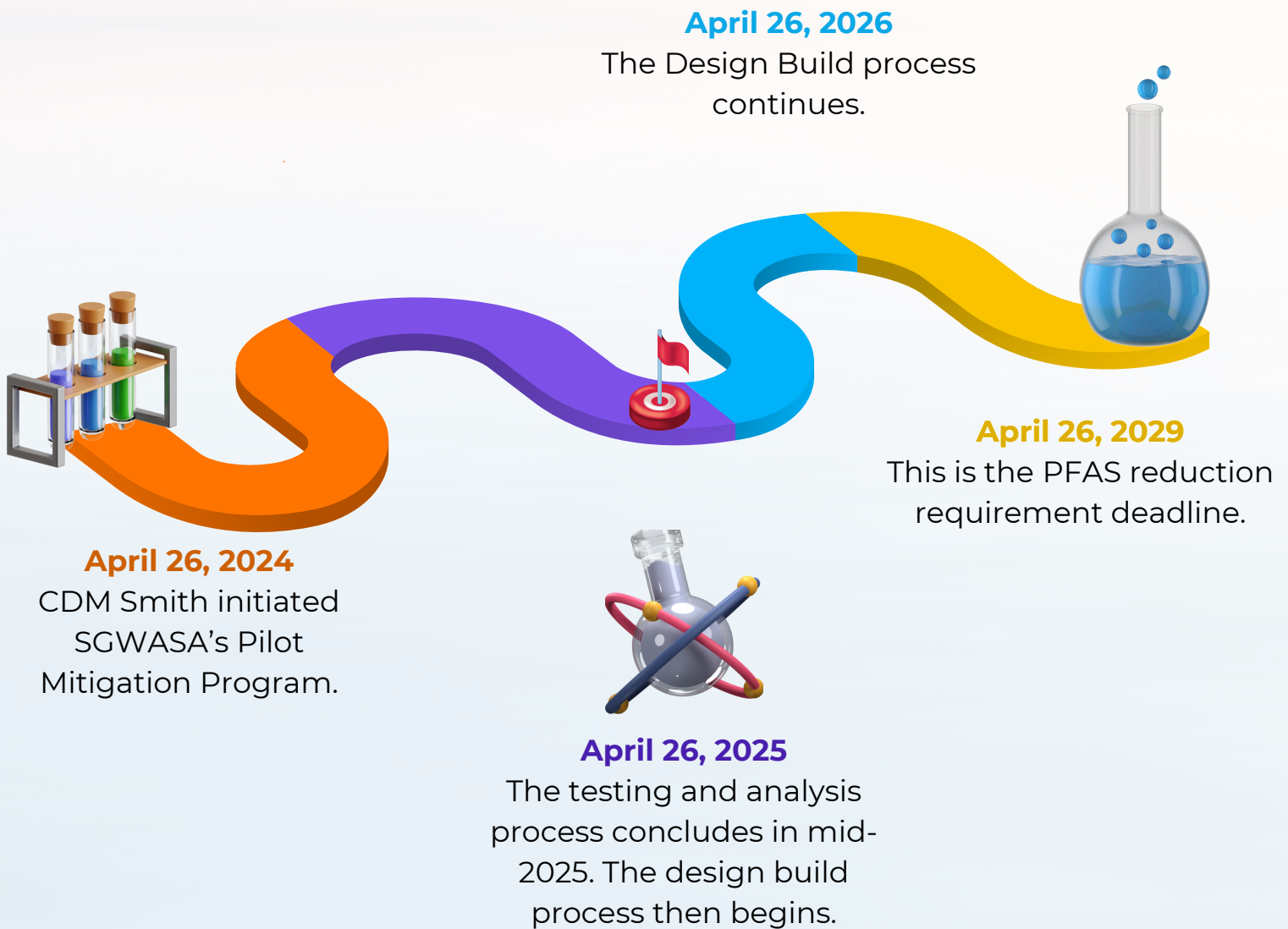


CDM Smith partnered with SGWASA to conduct the PFAS Mitigation Program.

PFAS Mitigation Program Timeline

CDM-Smith is currently conducting the PFAS Pilot Testing Program, which is scheduled for completion by mid-2025. SGWASA is awaiting information from NCDEQ regarding the Intent to Fund the PFAS removal project. The project timetable is provided below.

Visit sgwasa.org/board to view the Executive Director's current project update report.



Minimize PFAS exposure by considering the steps below.



Choose Safer Cookware:

Opt for cookware made of stainless steel or cast iron, and avoid non-stick pans that may contain PFAS.



Reduce Fast-Food Packaging:

Limit consumption of fast food items that may come in packaging containing PFAS, such as microwave popcorn bags.



Regular Cleaning:

Routine wet dusting and mopping can help eliminate household dust that may contain PFAS.



Stay Informed About Local Advisories:

Be aware of local fish advisories and avoid consuming fish from contaminated water sources.



Additional Measures:

Install in-home water treatment systems, such as filters certified to reduce PFAS levels in drinking water.

[For more detailed information, refer to the EPA's guidelines on reducing PFAS exposure.](#)

Legislators Engage With SGWASA's Executive Leadership Team

The South Granville Water and Sewer Authority's executive team met with Representative Bryan Cohn, and Senator Terrence Everett on February 27th, 2025. A discussion was held regarding the ongoing efforts to modernize and expand southern Granville County's water and sewer infrastructure. Executive Director Scott N. Schroyer and Assistant Executive Director Chris Summerlin detailed work being conducted to address aging infrastructure, the I-85 SSI Project, PFAS contamination, and water quality concerns.

The aging infrastructure, particularly the 80 year old water treatment plant, bore the weight of the conversation. While a major upgrade in 2022 helped improve historic water quality challenges, growing concern over the plant's viability and longevity will be addressed with the projects in motion.

The Authority is exploring the possibility of building a new plant or regionalizing with neighboring utilities to ensure sustainability.



Executive Director Scott N. Schroyer lead a tour of SGWASA's facilities and water source to update the Board members on current conditions and ongoing projects.

Pictured from left to right: Executive Director Scott N. Schroyer with Board Members: Commissioner Jimmy Gooch, Chair, Councilperson Vicky Daniels, and Commissioner Tim Karan.



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PFAS contamination was another hot topic discussed during the meeting.

SGWASA is actively working to remove the contaminants deposited into the water supply before the EPA's 2029 deadline. With a projected cost of \$26 million, the team is applying for grants to offset the PFAS mitigation bill; but is also exploring additional loan options to secure funding.

Director Schroyer expressed frustration behind PFAS mitigation efforts not receiving adequate levels of support. SGWASA remains committed to pursuing every available funding avenue; and is engaged in class action lawsuits against chemical companies believed to be responsible for the contamination.

The South Granville Water & Sewer Authority's Board and Executive team appreciate the ongoing collaborative efforts with state legislators to secure vital funding for the current and approaching projects. Many of the Authority's active Capital Improvement Projects were initiated with the funding advocacy of Representative Frank Sossamon and Representative Matthew Winslow. The Authority has secured a \$5 million grant and \$500,000 state grant, so far.

Director Schroyer informed attendees that the total cost of the I-85 Sanitary Sewer Improvement project has potential to reach \$26 million, which was not anticipated.

Collaboration is at the heart of SGWASA's strategy for upgrading southern Granville County's water and sewer systems. Throughout Thursday's meeting, both Senator Everett and Representative Cohn offered valuable insights into potential funding sources and plans to discuss further opportunities with SGWASA.

By aligning efforts with state and federal partners, SGWASA is strategically preparing to address both current and future infrastructure challenges proactively, ensuring that solutions are implemented efficiently while minimizing the financial impact on residents within the Authority's service area. ■

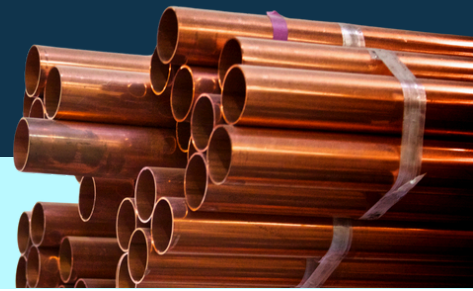
SGWASA will transition to a new bill payment system over the next few months.

Visit sgwasa.org/bill for details.



LEAD & COPPER

RULE REVISION VISIT [EPA.GOV](https://www.epa.gov) FOR DETAILS



The EPA's new Lead and Copper Rule better protects communities from the risks of lead exposure by removing lead from of the nation's drinking water and empowering communities through information. Please read more about this program below by clicking on the Fact Sheet.

Since 2022, SGWASA has been working with Hazen & Sawyer on the management of the program.



In response to the US Environmental Protection Agency's updated Lead and Copper Rule, which took effect on December 16, 2021, SGWASA is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community by addressing lead exposure risks in drinking water.

For more detailed information, please refer to the EPA Lead & Copper Program Fact Sheet and presentation video.



**DOWNLOAD THE
PDF PRESENTATION**

On October 8, 2024, Hazen & Sawyer provided the SGWASA Board of Directors with a Lead and Copper Program status update presentation. The presentation begins around the 7-minute mark in the meeting video. The video can be viewed via youtube.com/watch?v=FlaXIKAAebQ

visit sgwasa.org/qa for details



COMMUNITY UPDATES

In October of 2024, the SGWASA announced the launch of the new Customer Focus Corner, a dedicated online space designed to foster open communication and information based on community requests.

- Submit inquiries about SGWASA services, projects, and water-related topics.
- Stay informed by diving into the current Community Spotlight Topic featuring detailed information, research, and updates on community-prioritized issues, infrastructure projects, and more.
- Suggest future topics and share your ideas for future discussions that address your questions and curiosities surrounding the region's infrastructure.

➔ Holiday Closing





The South Granville Water & Sewer Authority will be closed in observance of the holidays on the following dates:

April 18th
Good Friday

May 16th
Memorial Day

Please visit our website at sgwasa.org/emergency to report emergencies.

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

-  **SGWASA General**
Spring Board Meetings
 - March 11th
 - April 8th
 - May 13th
-  **Virtual Town Hall**
 - April 23rd



Visit the Community Focus Corner at sgwasa.org/community for opportunities to share your thoughts and support work in progress to

**Together, with the southern Granville
County community, ongoing
collaboration, will shape a future where
our communities thrive on a sustainable,
reliable water and sewer system.**



This is a publication of the South Granville Water & Sewer Authority. Public distribution is encouraged. Submit topics of interest online via sgwasa.org/news-topic

sgwasa.org