



PFAS REMEDICATION PROGRAM

A grant program for water purveyors in the Central Basin and West Coast Basin seeking to remediate drinking water wells that have been impacted by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).



Photo of treatment system that was successfully completed and funded under the WRD PFAS Remediation Program.

PFAS REMEDIATION PROGRAM

HOW DO WATER PURVEYORS APPLY FOR PFAS FUNDING?

Water purveyors may download an initial application from WRD's PFAS Remediation Program website (indicated on the cover of this brochure). Upon submittal of the initial application, WRD shall determine eligibility for grant funding. If eligible, the purveyor shall submit a funding application package for WRD evaluation, which shall include the following:

- WRD's Funding Application Form, which requires the water purveyor to describe the condition of the well(s) impacted by PFAS, historical water quality and production from the well(s), and details regarding the proposed PFAS treatment system project(s), including project schedule and costs,
- Design drawings & construction documents,
- Contracts with design engineering firms, construction contractors, equipment vendors, etc., and
- Other technical and supporting documents that will help WRD evaluate the treatment system design and project costs.

HOW ARE PFAS-IMPACTED WELLS TREATED?

GAC - Granular Activated Carbon

IX - Ion Exchange

RO - Reverse Osmosis



PFAS can be treated by various methods, with the most common ones being ion exchange (IX), granular activated carbon (GAC), and reverse osmosis (RO). These treatment technologies have been accepted by the Division of Drinking Water for the removal of PFAS.

WHAT IS THE COST TO TREAT PFAS-AFFECTED WELLS?

The cost to treat wells affected by PFAS varies based on the level of PFAS contamination, the quantity of water being treated, and the technology selected. In 2021, WRD completed two pilot tests to evaluate the performance and life cycle costs for various IX and GAC media. Results from these pilot tests may aid water purveyors in the design of their PFAS treatment systems. The pilot test reports may be downloaded from WRD's PFAS Remediation Program website.

WHAT ARE PFAS?

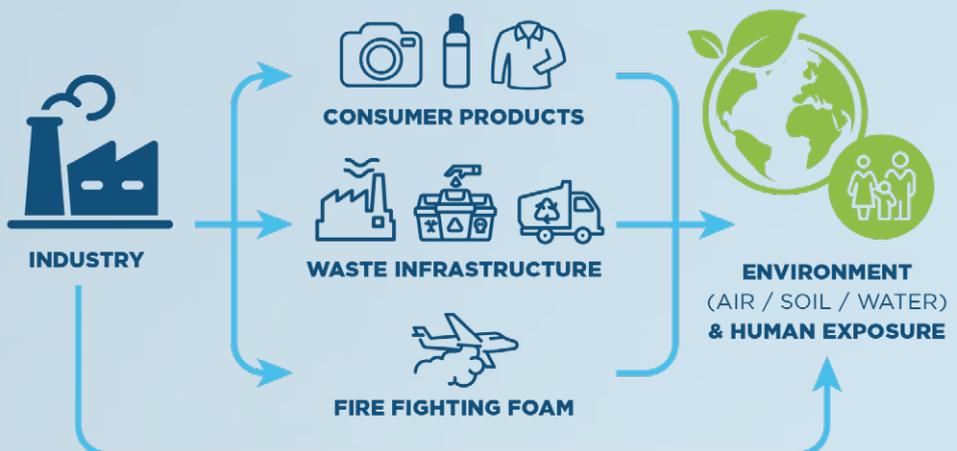
Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large group of human-made chemicals that have been used in a variety of industries around the globe, including the United States, since the 1940s. PFAS has been detected in air, water, wastewater, soil, and within:

- Manufacturing and other facilities (e.g., chrome plating, chemical plants, landfills),
- Animals, including fish, livestock, and humans,
- Airports, refineries, and other sites that use or produce firefighting foam,
- Personal care and household products, e.g. shampoo, cosmetics, carpet, clothing, and non-stick cookware, and
- Drinking water, food, and food packaging.



ARE PFAS IN DRINKING WATER REGULATED IN CALIFORNIA?

Both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) have established health advisory levels or regulatory limits for some PFAS, including perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). To learn more about drinking water regulations pertaining to PFAS, visit: <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/pfas/>.



WHAT IS WRD'S PFAS REMEDIATION PROGRAM?

The WRD Board of Directors established the PFAS Remediation Program in August 2020. The Board set aside over \$60 million dollars to offer financial and technical support to water purveyors within the Central Basin and West Coast Basin seeking to treat drinking water wells impacted by PFAS. This is one of the first programs in the State of California to award grant funding to treat PFAS-impacted drinking water wells.

In addition, WRD has been working with regulators and elected officials at the State and Federal level to secure grant funding for PFAS remediation projects. WRD continues to advocate the need to prioritize funding for communities that meet the economic threshold to be considered “Disadvantaged Communities.”

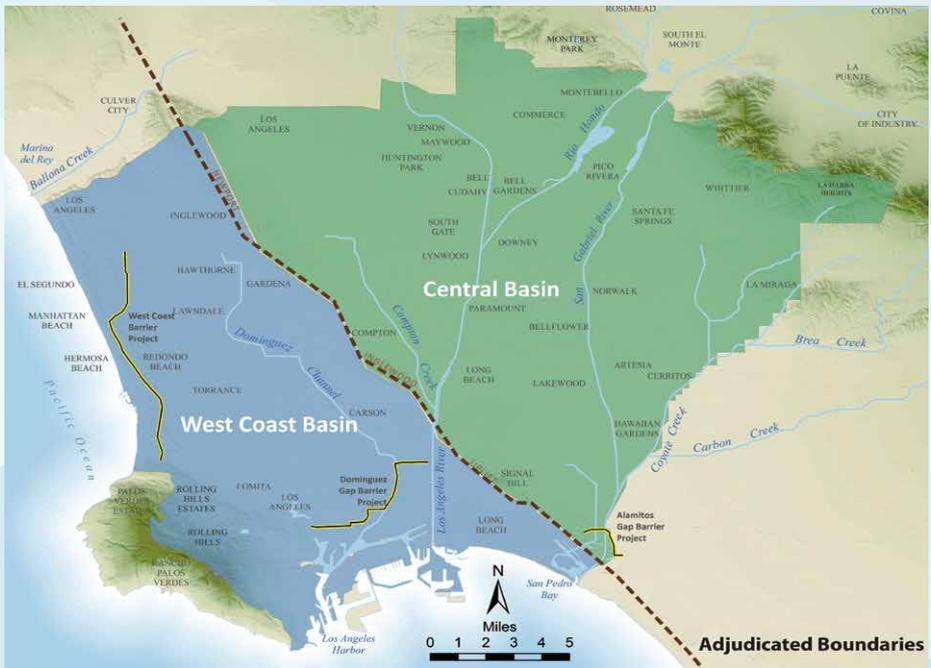


WRD Board Members give a tour of a PFAS remediation site in Pico Rivera. From left: State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Chair Joaquin Esquivel, WRD Board Members Joy Langford and Vera Robles DeWitt, SWRCB Board Member Nichole Morgan, and Pico Water District General Manager Mark Grajeda.

IS WRD TAKING OTHER STEPS TO ADDRESS PFAS CONTAMINATION IN THE REGION?

Yes. On November 8, 2021, WRD filed a lawsuit against 3M Company, E.I. DuPont de Nemours, Inc., and other manufacturers of aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) for their involvement in the manufacture and sale of PFAS that have contaminated groundwater supplies within WRD's service area. WRD is represented by a consortium of law firms with environmental contamination experience, including SL Environmental Law Group and others.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR PFAS FUNDING FROM WRD?



Water purveyors (typically cities and utility companies) in the Central Basin and West Coast Basin that have drinking water wells containing PFAS at concentrations greater than regulatory levels.

WHAT TYPE OF PFAS FUNDING CAN WRD PROVIDE?

Only capital costs associated with the PFAS treatment system are eligible for WRD funding. Water purveyors are responsible for all operations and maintenance costs. Applicants may request WRD to design and construct the PFAS treatment system (referred to as a Turnkey Project) or a water purveyor may design and construct their own PFAS treatment system and seek reimbursement from WRD (referred to as a Funding Support Project).

The funding amount shall be based on the historical production from the PFAS-impacted wells. The final funding amount and award of funding to the purveyor is determined by the WRD Board of Directors. The water purveyor may be required to adopt a Financial Capability Resolution to certify adequate financial reserves to cover all costs in excess of the WRD funding amount.

ARE THERE OTHER KEY REQUIREMENTS FOR PFAS FUNDING FROM WRD?

Upon project completion, the water purveyor is required to submit an annual report to WRD and maintain groundwater production to meet an Annual Pumping Requirement for a minimum of 20 years. This Annual Pumping Requirement shall be determined based on historical production from the purveyor's wells.



WRD has a legacy of treating unwanted substances before they spread in groundwater. For example, WRD’s Safe Drinking Water Program (SDWP) and Disadvantaged Communities Program (DAC) offers financial and technical assistance to water purveyors seeking to remediate their wells. Through these programs, WRD has secured millions in State grant funding for well remediation and other water system projects. WRD’s PFAS Remediation Program builds on the tremendous success of SDWP and DAC.

Applications are available for download from the WRD PFAS Remediation Program website at: <https://www.wrd.org/pfas-remediation-program>

For more information, email info@wrd.org or call (562) 275-4300.

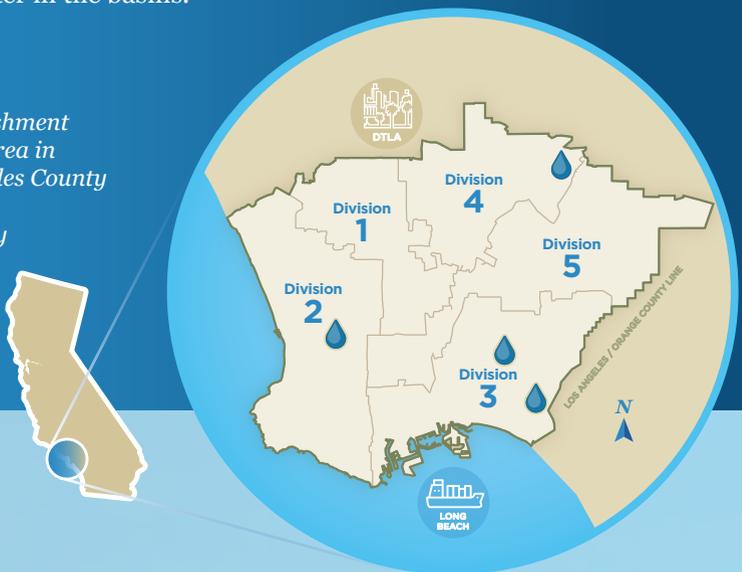
ABOUT WRD

Established in 1959, the Water Replenishment District (WRD) manages the Central Basin and West Coast Basin in southern Los Angeles County, two of the most utilized urban groundwater basins in the nation. Groundwater from these basins provides 50% of the total water supply for four million people within WRD’s service area, which includes 43 cities within 420 square miles. WRD is charged with:

- Replenishment of the groundwater basins,
- Protection and cleanup of groundwater against natural and human-made contaminants (such as PFAS), and
- Regular and comprehensive monitoring of the quality and quantity of groundwater in the basins.

The Water Replenishment District's service area in southern Los Angeles County

 = WRD Facility



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