



January 9, 2024

The City of Eau Claire continues to provide safe drinking to the community.

The combined level of PFOA and PFOS at the entry point continues to remain below all recommended enforcement standards and the hazard index.

The City of Eau Claire continues to provide water to the community with only half of the groundwater wells in service. The remaining groundwater wells have higher levels of PFAS and are either offline or discharging to an absorption pond in an attempt to block the migration of the PFAS to other wells.

The City of Eau Claire has entered into an engineering contract with Gannett-Fleming for the design of a PFAS removal facility addition at the water treatment plant.

To assist with the design, pilot testing was conducted to test the PFAS removal efficiency of different types of media. Through testing and analysis, it was found that Ion Exchange technology was the best for removing PFAS from Eau Claire's drinking water. The PFAS removal facility will be an addition onto the existing water treatment facility and will include 16 PFAS removal vessels as well as updated chemical rooms, backup emergency power, and upgraded water metering equipment.

At this time the design phase of the project has reached the 90% completion milestone. As the design becomes final it will be submitted to the WI DNR for review, comment, and approval. The project is expected to be let out for bid during the spring of 2024 and construction to start during the summer of 2024.

The majority of the project will be funded through the City's Capital Improvement Plan budget. The City is in the process of securing a low interest loan, with a portion of it receiving principal forgiveness, through the WI DNR's Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP). In 2023 Senator Tammy Baldwin helped secure a Community Funding Grant for the project in the amount of \$1.666 million. Representative Derrick Van Orden's office is also diligently working to secure a similar grant in 2024.

The City of Eau Claire remains focused on the continued delivery of safe drinking water.