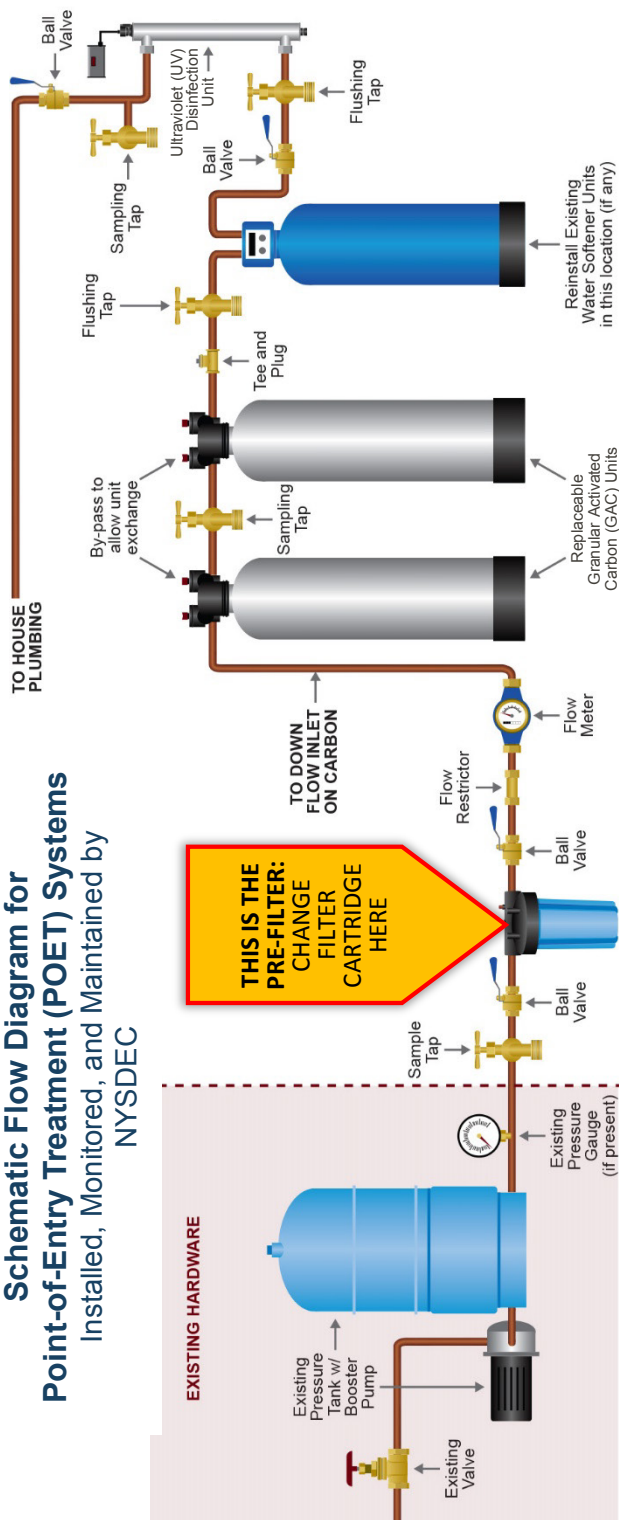


Schematic Flow Diagram for Point-of-Entry Treatment (POET) Systems
Installed, Monitored, and Maintained by NYSDEC



System Maintenance is Important

Monthly pre-filter replacement is recommended as an important part of keeping the system operating properly and maintaining good water pressure. The pre-filter removes sand, sediment, and other natural small particles that may come in from the well. Maintaining a clean pre-filter also reduces the need for in-home service by DEC representatives.

While DEC is responsible for overall maintenance of the system, it is suggested that pre-filter replacement be performed by the occupant.

DEC will provide a free annual supply of pre-filters and show you how and when to complete the replacement.

Generic instructions on how to change the pre-filter are provided in DEC's "How To Change the Pre-Filter" supplement to this guide. For more specific guidance or questions, call the DEC Hotline at 1-888-459-8667.

Maintenance activities DEC must perform include routine sampling, periodic replacement of the GAC tanks, cleaning or replacing the UV light quartz sleeve as needed, system inspection and checking for leaks, and checking proper valve settings and pressure.

**WHEN TO CALL THE DEC HOTLINE
1-888-459-8667 (24/7)**

- Before being away for more than 2 weeks
- To arrange for repair—do not attempt any system or plumbing repairs yourself
- When you need more pre-filters
- If you have any questions

**POINT-OF-ENTRY
TREATMENT (POET)
SYSTEM GUIDE**



For Systems Installed, Monitored,
and Maintained by the
**New York State Department
of Environmental Conservation**

This guide describes the main components and benefits of the Point-Of-Entry Treatment (POET) System installed in your home or building by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

The purpose of the water treatment is to remove certain contaminants that may be in the drinking water entering area homes and buildings. The water treatment systems installed are specifically designed to address Perfluorinated compounds (PFCs), including perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS).

How the System Works

POETs are installed to filter and treat all water as it enters your home or building. As shown on the system flow diagram (back page), POETs filter and treat water using a small pre-filter followed by two tanks of granular activated carbon (GAC). In certain cases, smaller point-of-use treatment systems (POUTs) attach to faucets and fixtures where your water is dispensed.

POETs are designed to filter and disinfect groundwater (well water) for use in residential or commercial properties. Via your well pump, groundwater is piped into an existing pressure tank and then through an installed pre-filter (sediment trap) to remove sand and other natural small particles that may come in with the water.

As shown on the flow diagram, the water continues through the pre-filter and a flow restrictor, and then through a flow meter to measure how much water is flowing through the system. From there, the water continues into the first of two tanks filled with GAC to begin cleaning the water. The second GAC tank acts as a backup to provide redundancy to the filtering process. Next, the water may flow into a water softener if a softener was already in place before the POET or POUT system was added.

Finally, the water passes through an ultraviolet (UV) unit where the water is disinfected before it flows directly into the existing plumbing for use within the residence or commercial building.

Benefits of Water Treatment

POET and POUT systems control a wide variety of contaminants in drinking water and often use the same technology found in large centralized treatment plants, but at a much smaller scale.

This established technology reduces the amount of organic contaminants, controls turbidity (cloudiness of the water), and removes micro-organisms and many other contaminants. Aesthetic factors such as taste, odor, or color can also be improved with treatment.

Water Quality Testing

DEC representatives will collect water from the “sampling taps” installed in the system at a minimum of once per year. Systems with higher incoming concentrations will initially be sampled more frequently. This routine sampling effort will provide data for the DEC to determine the lifespan of the carbon in the GAC tanks. The sampling and maintenance frequency is based on your specific well water and treatment system, and depends not only on sample results, but also how long the system components are performing as intended.

Additional follow-up visits to replace GAC tanks may be scheduled when necessary. Please note that the periodic sampling and maintenance schedule may change in the future based upon your sampling results, so that the system continues to successfully remove PFOA and PFOS from your drinking water.

Granular Activated Carbon Replacement

When water testing results indicate that a GAC tank needs to be changed, DEC representatives will promptly schedule a visit to perform the change out. This process typically involves installing a fresh GAC tank to replace the second tank in the system, and moving up the second tank to be first in line on the system. You do not need to flush the line prior to water use after the GAC tanks are replaced.

Maintenance at No Cost to You

Maintenance of POET systems in homes and commercial buildings is expected to continue until sampling data indicate well water treatment is no longer necessary. As the environmental investigation in the area continues and data indicate that a treatment system is no longer needed, DEC will either remove the system or turn over the system to the property owner, whichever the owner prefers. Property owners are not expected to pay the cost of POET system maintenance and water sampling and analysis.

QUESTIONS?
PLEASE CALL THE DEC HOTLINE
(available 24/7) at 1-888-459-8667