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Weekly Pease Perfluorochemical (PFC) Testing Program Update

Community Engagement:

- Information about PFCs and the DHHS blood testing program, including past presentations, can be found on the DHHS website at <http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/investigation-pease.htm>.

Testing & Reporting:

- DHHS is in the process of testing individuals for PFCs who missed the testing in April–May and who may have consumed contaminated drinking water while working or attending childcare on the Pease Tradeport. This will be the final round of testing in order for DHHS to analyze the results and present the community with a final summary report of the entire PFC testing program.
- October 2nd was the deadline for people to call in to request testing if they consumed contaminated water on the Tradeport. This is to allow for time to process the necessary paperwork.
- Participants who requested testing have until October 16th to get their blood drawn. DHHS is encouraging people who have received the lab paperwork to have their blood drawn as soon as possible to prevent an overload for Portsmouth Hospital staff on the last days of this testing phase.
- Since testing resumed, a total of 1,403 persons have indicated interest in blood testing for PFCs; this includes 1,070 adults and 333 children.
- Questionnaires and consent forms are being mailed and returned. DHHS has sent out 489 adult and 174 child lab requisition forms as of Friday 10/2/15.
- DHHS is discussing with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) their capacity to test additional samples and is working to secure an agreement with an additional lab to conduct testing due to the large number of samples expected.

Noteworthy Events and Meetings:

- The next Community Advisory Board (CAB) meeting is scheduled for October 14th in Portsmouth. The CDC's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) will be presenting at this meeting. For information on past and future public meetings, please visit the City of Portsmouth website at: <http://cityofportsmouth.com/CommunityAdvisoryBoardHavenWell.html>.
- Any persons with questions about the testing program can call the DHHS Public Inquiry line Monday–Friday, 8:00 am–4:00 pm, at 603-271-9461.