



U.S. ARMY

YAKIMA TRAINING CENTER PFAS RESPONSE



A quarterly newsletter focused on informing the East Selah, Washington, community on Yakima Training Center's PFAS response



VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2

JUNE 2026

Building treatment systems & partnerships

As summer 2026 gets underway, the Army team continues to work to build treatment systems to protect the residents of East Selah, WA from PFAS. To date, 72 point-of-entry treatment (POET) systems have been installed on private wells throughout East Selah to provide clean drinking water, with plans for additional installations throughout 2026. To date, POET systems have continued to function as designed by removing PFAS to below regulatory levels.

The Army is also building and maintaining effective partnerships with local and state agencies such as Roza Irrigation District, Yakima Health District, and Washington Department of Ecology. We are also increasing awareness of the work being done to the public outside the Yakima Valley through symposiums and tours with Department of War senior leadership. These actions ensure we have the resources and expertise to continue to respond effectively to PFAS in the East Selah community.

Stories in this issue:

- RECENT GROUP B POET COMMISSIONING
- USGS UNVEILS NEW GROUND-WATER LEVEL WEB APPLICATION
- SUMMARY OF ACTIONS AT THE ROZA CANAL OVERSHOOT
- LATE APRIL OPEN HOUSE & SENIOR LEADER POET TOUR
- ARMY AT WASHINGTON HYDROGEOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

New Group B POET system now active

The Army and its contractor partners at APTIM recently commissioned a new group water system Point of Entry Treatment (POET) system on April 20, 2026. This is APTIM's second POET system, and first system on a residential Group B water system.

A Group B water system is a small water system that serves two to six homes and is regulated by the Yakima Health Department. These systems are designed to remove PFAS and are monitored regularly to ensure the water stays safe to drink. This new system will ensure three homes will have clean drinking water; however, it has the

capacity for additional homes if needed in the future.

The Army has contracted APTIM to construct seven more POETs on group water systems in East Selah, for a total of nine systems once completed. Design for all nine systems are complete. These POETs use a similar process as the ones installed on



Delivery of the first residential Group B POET system enclosure.

private self-supply wells but on a larger scale to handle the water volume for multiple households.

The main features are three vessels containing granular activated carbon (GAC) for the adsorption of six PFAS compounds and the removal of other organic materials, a water softener, pressure tanks, and an ultraviolet light system for bacterial and viral disinfection.

While the POET systems are designed with PFAS removal in mind, frequently they also improve the taste and odor of drinking water for their customers.

USGS unveils new YTC groundwater level monitoring webpage

The US Geological Survey (USGS) has published a new interactive web application displaying the groundwater-level data for selected wells they are monitoring near the Yakima Training Center.

This website provides access to data collected as part of USGS' ongoing project to characterize the geology and groundwater flow system in the area. Through the website, residents can view an interactive map to see the same groundwater level data that

researchers use, increasing transparency in how the Army understands PFAS-related groundwater conditions.

USGS will continue collecting data through 2027 to help monitor regional groundwater changes. The Army uses USGS data to improve the accuracy of its hydrogeologic models to visualize, interpret, and predict where PFAS contamination is in the groundwater below East Selah and how it got there.

This webpage is available at https://rconnect.usgs.gov/yakima_gw/



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Army and Roza Irrigation team up to protect canal



Overshoot of Roza Canal with RCM barrier in place.

In early March, the Army worked with Roza Irrigation District to respond to a tentative detection of PFAS in an overshoot in the vicinity of Yakima Training Center that drains to Roza Canal.

The overshoot is a small channel that drains into the main channel of Roza Canal. Washington State Department of Ecology (ECY) *East Selah PFAS Preliminary Monitoring Report* describes this detection further.

However, ECY concluded their sampling suggests Roza Canal is unlikely to be transporting PFAS contaminated water away from YTC.

Historical training exercises on YTC using firefighting foam generated PFAS, which has migrated off the installation affecting groundwater sources in the East Selah neighborhood adjacent to YTC.

Initial sampling shows **no** PFAS in the main Roza Canal, and current data suggests only minimal movement of PFAS from

groundwater into surface water.

The Army and Roza Irrigation District worked with local contractors to install Reactive Core Matting (RCM) along the bottom and sides of the overshoot.

The RCM is a semi-permeable barrier that absorbs PFAS from the water as it discharges into the overshoot. These types of barriers have proven to be effective in other locations to mitigate groundwater to surface water PFAS impacts.

This barrier was installed before the start of irrigation season.

The Army will sample the water quarterly to confirm the barrier is working as designed.

The Army remains committed to working with its partners, including Roza Irrigation District and ECY, to address PFAS contamination originating from historical activities at YTC in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act – also known as CERCLA, the federal cleanup law.

The partnership established here between Roza Irrigation District and the Army will ensure the Roza Canal remains protected from PFAS related to YTC.

Army partners share progress at WA Hydrogeology Symposium

Recently, the Army and its environmental cleanup partners shared important updates on their work to protect drinking water and track PFAS around the Yakima Training Center.

At a recent state-wide environmental conference in Tacoma (May 11-14), our partners at ECC and Arcadis presented their latest efforts and teamed up with other experts to bring the best cleanup practices back to our community.

Here is a breakdown of the progress they shared

SECURING SAFE DRINKING WATER FOR LOCAL HOMES

Our partners at ECC highlighted their success in keeping East Selah families safe by installing in-home water filtration systems on private drinking water wells.

They focused on two main goals: protecting people and ensuring a reliable supply of safe drinking water. Installing these systems came with unique challenges, but by teaming up with local tradespeople, ECC successfully installed and is currently maintaining 70 water filtration systems across the East Selah area.

MAPPING THE UNDERGROUND CONTAMINATION

To clean up a problem, you first have to know exactly where it is. Arcadis presented their deep-dive research into how PFAS has moved underground from the Yakima Training Center over the past few decades.

By mapping the geology under the Training Center and East Selah, they have given the Army a much clearer picture of how groundwater flows in the area. Using this map, along with data from the US Geological Survey, the Army now knows exactly where the PFAS is and the underground pathways it took to get there.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE COMMUNITY

All of this research and hard work adds up to one thing: better, more accurate cleanup plans that will provide long-term protection for the residents of East Selah.

April highlights: Sharing clean water solutions

The Army hosted two events on April 30, to raise awareness of its work to address PFAS in local drinking water in the East Selah, WA community near Yakima Training Center.

First, officials from the Department of War toured newly installed POET systems in action. These systems are successfully removing PFAS, guaranteeing safe, clean water for residents.

This team gathered valuable insights from this visit to understand and better relay best practices with teams conducting PFAS response actions at other locations.

Later that day, the Army hosted an Open House at the Selah Civic Center. About 30 residents dropped by to view equipment displays and speak one-on-one with technical and real estate

experts. This casual setup allowed neighbors to get their personal questions answered directly, without the pressure of speaking in front of a large crowd.

While the "behind-the-scenes" work of environmental stewardship is constant, getting to discuss our ongoing cleanup efforts face-to-face is invaluable.

Thank you to everyone who stopped by to ask questions and learn more about how the Army is balancing military readiness and environmental protection with the needs of the community.

Looking Ahead: We look forward to seeing you at our next community Open House, planned for early September 2026.



Army contractor, ECC, gives a tour of a residential POET system to DoW representatives.



Representatives from the Army and their contractors were available during the Open House to answer residents' questions through one-on-one, face-to-face conversations.

THE ARMY WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU

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The Army is planning to host our next
Yakima Training Center Open House

September 1st, 2026

2-5pm

Selah Civic Center

216 S 1st Street, Selah, WA 98942

Representatives from the Army and contractors will be there to answer your questions and finalize Right of Entry (ROE) agreements. An ROE allows the Army [and its contractors] to install and maintain a treatment system on private property that may be affected by PFAS from past operations at Yakima Training Center.