Whole-House Carbon Media Service Record

Reusable homeowner record. This is not an official inspection, laboratory, legal, code, or health-clearance document. Complete it from the equipment label, manufacturer literature, laboratory report, and service invoice. Leave unknown fields blank; do not guess.

1. System identity

Field	Record
Property / equipment location	
Date of entry	
System type: cartridge / single tank / lead-lag	
Manufacturer and model	
Valve or controller model	
Cartridge or carbon media part number	
Carbon type and media volume, if documented	
Raw sample point	
Midstream sample point, if lead-lag	
Treated sample point	
Installer / service company and contact	

2. Treatment target and evidence

Field	Record
Target contaminant	
Raw-water result and units	
Treated-water target or limit	
Certification or performance-sheet reference	
Rated service flow	
Rated service cycle (gallons or liters)	
Usage restrictions from label or manual	
Source water: private well / public supply / other	

NSF explains that product literature may list validated contaminants, rated service flow, rated service cycle, operating limits, and replacement requirements. Certification must be specific to the contaminant; a general "carbon" label is not a health-performance claim. See: https://www.nsf.org/consumer-resources/articles/product-label-literature-claims and https://www.nsf.org/consumer-resources/articles/standards-water-treatment-systems.

3. Installation and capacity baseline

Event	Date	Totalizer / meter	Media or cartridge	Service flow	Notes
New media or cartridge installed					
First treated-water sample					
Service or backwash event					
Current reading					

If the meter is available:

Gallons used = current totalizer reading - reading when new media was installed

Remaining rated gallons = rated service cycle - gallons used

Use this calculation only when the rated cycle matches the installed model, target contaminant, service flow, and stated operating conditions. A calendar estimate or an assumed household-use number is not a substitute for a product rating or test.

4. Separate flow problems from carbon performance

Record only visible, homeowner-safe readings. Do not loosen fittings or open pressurized equipment.

Date	Pressure before prefilter	Pressure after prefilter	Pressure after carbon	Flow / symptom	Interpretation or next action

4. Separate flow problems from carbon performance

Use the following boundary:

- [ ] A pressure drop across a sediment prefilter supports investigating sediment loading or restriction; it does not prove carbon exhaustion.
- [ ] Normal pressure does not prove that carbon is removing an invisible contaminant.
- [ ] Return of taste or odor may be an aesthetic breakthrough clue; it does not prove the status of a health-related contaminant.
- [ ] Reaching the rated service cycle is a service boundary. A target contaminant detected after treatment must be compared with the applicable product performance limit or health target; a result below that boundary is not confirmed failure. If the boundary is exceeded, or the laboratory/health authority says treatment is not adequate, use the affected-use stop boundary and escalate. For an unconfirmed health-related result, a temporary pause is Brictale's conservative precaution, not proof of media failure.

Connecticut DEEP describes a sediment filter ahead of carbon canisters as becoming clogged with use and being changed in response to reduced water pressure. Source: https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Remediation--Site-Clean-Up/Potable-Water-Program/GAC-Filter-System-for-Private-Wells.

5. Breakthrough sampling record

Ask the laboratory for the correct containers, preservation, tap, flushing, and timing instructions. Do not label a fixture "raw" unless it is confirmed upstream of treatment.

Collection date/time	Sample point: raw / pre / mid / post	First-draw or flushed	Laboratory	Result	Reporting limit	Target met?

For a lead-lag system, a target contaminant detected immediately after the primary bed can indicate that the first bed needs service while the backup remains the protective stage at that sampling time. Connecticut DPH recommends pre-, mid-, and post-filtration sampling for this purpose in its private-well GAC guidance: https://portal.ct.gov/dph/knowledge-base/articles/environmental-health/drinking-water/granular-activated-carbon-treatment.

6. Service decision

Check one or more and record who will act.

- ☐ Prefilter pressure loss: service or replace prefilter according to its manual.
- ☐ Rated service cycle reached: schedule cartridge or media service.
- ☐ Target contaminant detected after carbon: compare the result with the applicable product performance limit or health target; if above the boundary, stop relying on treated water for the affected use and contact the responsible professional or health authority. If below the boundary, record the result and follow the lab or professional confirmation/retest plan.
- ☐ Lead bed shows breakthrough: arrange the model-specific lead-lag changeover.
- ☐ Both beds or treated outlet exceed the applicable target: use the alternative water action recommended for the contaminant and obtain qualified help.
- ☐ Equipment identity or capacity unknown: document the system and obtain the manual, performance sheet, or professional assessment.

Decision / action	Responsible person	Date requested	Date completed	Post-service test or note

7. Safety stop

Do not open energized controls, touch live wiring, loosen pressurized housings or fittings, open a well, pull a pump, enter a confined space, handle spent media, or work around hot water or drain discharge as a routine homeowner test. Use the manufacturer's instructions and a qualified professional for those tasks.

Keep this record with the manual, performance sheet, laboratory reports, and service invoices. It is useful only when entries are tied to the actual model, contaminant, sample point, and date.