

LONG BEACH WATER SYSTEM UPDATE

AUGUST 27, 2021

The Long Beach Water Treatment and Distribution System is a privately owned water system feeding approximately 400 service connections. As you are aware, plans to upgrade the system to increase reliability and to facilitate future expansion have been in the works since 2019.

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES?

Long Beach Water Treatment Plant draws its water from Lake Erie. Due to the physical characteristics of the lake, there is an unacceptable amount of turbidity (dissolved or suspended particles in water that make the water look cloudy). Turbidity is an important indicator of water quality, as the suspended particles can carry contaminants, pathogens and bacteria. Because of this turbidity, there has been a Boiled Water Advisory since 2018. **This Boiled Water Advisory is still in force. Please see the information on the last page of this letter.**

The water treatment building is at the end of its useful life and so needs urgent structural rehabilitation. We are awaiting building permit approval from the Township of Wainfleet to complete a full retrofit of the existing water plant. We will continue to press the Township for this approval.

The existing pump vault located further onto the beach may need to be abandoned and relocated inside the reconstructed water plant. Continuing to use it would require extensive design, approvals and construction given its proximity to Lake Erie.

WHAT ARE THE SHORT-TERM PLANS?

We have engaged with several contractors to complete various upgrades within and outside of the existing water treatment plant that will support the ultimate build including:

- Civil works in the existing driveway of the plant to provide additional chlorine contact time
- Mechanical works within the plant to increase redundancy of equipment and improve performance, followed by the associated electrical and instrumentation works.

This work is scheduled to start in late fall.

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WHAT ARE THE LONG-TERM PLANS?

We have engaged a consulting engineer, GM BluePlan, to assist with a long-term planning strategy to:

- Develop a financial model for upgrades and expansion to the water treatment plant and distribution system
- Develop a financial model to support proposed long-term capital investments.

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

We will notify residents of any planned water outages related to the mechanical/electrical work at the plant.

You may notice boreholes being dug along the side of the road. These help us understand the ground conditions so we can finalize the design of the upgraded distribution system.

We will keep you updated with timelines for the scheduled work as it affects residents. Thank you for your patience as we move forward with the necessary improvements to service.

Sincerely,

Trisha Liwska
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BOIL WATER ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT

RECOMMENDATIONS

The water should not be used for: drinking; preparing food; oral hygiene washing/rinsing cutlery, dishes, glasses and cups; bathing young children (who sometimes drink bathing water); making infant formula and juices; making ice. For these purposes, boiled water or bottled water should be used. The elderly, infants, and those with weakened immune systems may be at greater risk.

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

- Bring your water to a rapid boil for at least one minute and allow it to cool (or you may use bottled water) before using it to:
 - Drink
 - Gargle, spray or brush teeth, or rinse dentures
 - Wash fruit, vegetables, and other food
 - Make ice, juices, puddings, or other mixes

- **Baby food or formula should be prepared using bottled water only.**

- **For bathing and washing:**
 - Adults, teens and older children can use tap water for baths and showers
 - Young children can be given sponge-baths instead of tub baths or showers
 - Do not swallow any tap water used for showers and baths

- **Dishwashing:**
 - Wash your dishes in a soapy solution, rinse and place them in a half-filled sink of water with two tablespoons of household bleach. Let dishes air dry. Dishwashers with a hot/sanitizing cycle may be used; they safely disinfect dishes.

- **Laundry:**
 - Do laundry as normal

- **If you or someone in your family becomes ill, you should:**
 - Immediately obtain medical advice for the elderly, infants, and those with weakened immune systems
 - For others, obtain medical advice if diarrhea persists for more than 48 hours