

## Safe Water Annual Service Plan

### A. Community Need and Priority Setting

- We are a rural community with access to both public and private water, making it imperative that our drinking water sources and recreational water facilities are safe. We have 471 small drinking water systems, 15 year round public pools, 54 seasonal public pools, 6 seasonal spas, and 5 year round spas, 10 seasonal unregulated water facilities, 1 year round unregulated water facility and 22 public beaches that require regular inspections and education to owners and communication to the public.
- We work closely with our municipal drinking water system and others (Reg 170).
- We collaborate with municipalities and MOECC on adverse water incidents – 192 in 2017.
- About 60% of our region is rural private well owners and they are spread out across the region necessitating multiple sites with accessible well water bottle samples and pick-up for testing as well as consultation to interpret and respond to results.
- Several small towns and hamlets rely on private wells and septic systems. Aging systems combined with low soil coverage and fractured rock formation pose a significant problem for drinking water quality.
- Many lakes and rivers are spread throughout the region and are used as drinking water sources as well as for recreational purposes. There is strong public interest in maintaining the health of the rivers and lakes.

Priorities are determined by:

- Protocols and Regulations;
- Witsen data (private well water sample results);
- Adverse events related to drinking water and recreational water facilities;
- Risk assessments;
- Public requests for information.

### B. Key Partners/Stakeholders:

- Collaboration is done with external partners to achieve our goal of safe water being served to and used by the public. This may be achieved through education, consultation, joint inspection work, partner's experience, expertise and delegated authority where businesses require multiple agency oversight. Our partners include:
  - Public Health Ontario including the Public Health Lab
  - Municipalities
  - Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
  - Small Drinking Water Systems operators
  - Recreation camp operators
  - Public with wells
  - Recreation water operators
  - Drinking water service providers
  - Conservation Authorities
  - Lake Associations
  - LGL Water Operators Regional Network

<b>Programs</b>	<b>Interventions</b>	<b>Intervention Description</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators of success</b>
<b>Program 1 Surveillance and Monitoring</b>	Intervention 1 Tracking waterborne illness and risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of iphis exposures/ reports</li> <li>• Analysis of well water results, beach water results</li> <li>• Review MOECC drinking water inspection report</li> <li>• Review municipal water reports including fluoride levels and respond as needed.</li> <li>• Review media reports of public concerns</li> </ul>	The Board of Health is aware of and uses data to influence and inform the development of local healthy public policy and its programs and services related to safe water. Board of Health programs and services are designed to address identified needs of the community, including priority populations associated with safe water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of water borne illnesses</li> <li># of adverse water incidence</li> <li># of beach postings</li> <li># days fluoride levels were below recommended levels</li> </ul>
<b>Program 2 Information/ Education</b>	Intervention 1 Public Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information on Website and through media</li> <li>• Consultation for drinking water results and beach water results</li> <li>• Posting beaches with adverse water results.</li> </ul>	Members of the public who use private drinking water supplies are aware of how to safely manage their own drinking water systems. The public is aware of drinking water safety, including the potential risk of illness related to unsafe drinking water. The public is aware of potential risk of illnesses and injuries related to recreational water facilities and public beach use. Water-borne illness risks are mitigated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of views on the website</li> <li># of media interviews</li> <li># of media releases</li> <li># of social media posts</li> <li># of warning letters</li> <li># of tickets</li> <li># of orders</li> <li># of waterborne illness</li> <li># of adverse event notifications</li> </ul>
	Intervention 2 Owners/Operat ors of small drinking water systems and recreational water facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation.</li> <li>• Information on Website</li> <li>• Provide resources as needed.</li> </ul>		
<b>Program 3 Recreation Water Facilities</b>	Intervention 1 Inspections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes beach's public pools and spa, recreational unregulated sites i.e. splash pads</li> <li>• Sampling and testing</li> </ul>	Owners/operators of recreational water facilities and owners/operators of small drinking water systems operate in a safe and sanitary manner. Public exposure to recreational water-related illness and hazards is reduced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># of orders</li> <li># of beach postings</li> <li># of closures</li> </ul>

<b>Programs</b>	<b>Interventions</b>	<b>Intervention Description</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicators of success</b>
Program 4 <b>Small Drinking Water Systems</b>	Intervention 1 Inspection of Small Drinking Water Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk assessment of small drinking water systems and monitoring sampling as per directive</li> <li>• Provide education to operators</li> </ul>	<p>Water-borne illness risks are mitigated.</p> <p>Owners/operators of recreational water facilities and owners/operators of small drinking water systems operate in a safe and sanitary manner.</p>	<p># of SDWS where risk categories change</p> <p># of risk assessments completed</p> <p># of warning letters issued</p> <p># of tickets</p> <p># of waterborne illness</p> <p># of adverse event notifications</p>
Program 5 <b>Enhanced Safe Water Initiative</b>	<p>Intervention 1 Well water testing</p> <p>Intervention 2 Inspection of Small Drinking Water Systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue reviewing access to water bottles for testing and pick up at convenient sites around the region. Review the possibility of new sites in areas with low accessibility.</li> <li>• Additional requirements for SDWS monitoring and follow-up includes risk assessment of SDWS and monitoring sampling as per directive and enforcement strategies.</li> </ul>	<p>Members of the public who use private drinking water supplies are aware of how to safely manage their own drinking water systems. The public is aware of drinking water safety, including the potential risk of illness related to unsafe drinking water.</p> <p>Water-borne illness risks are mitigated.</p> <p>Owners/operators of recreational water facilities and owners/operators of small drinking water systems operate in a safe and sanitary manner.</p>	<p># of private water samples submitted</p> <p># of water sample drop off sites</p> <p># of additional drop off sites</p> <p>% of SDWS in compliance with directive for sampling frequency</p> <p># of warning letters issued</p> <p># of tickets</p> <p># of waterborne illness</p> <p># of adverse event notifications</p>
Program 6 <b>Adverse Water Event/ Incident Response</b>	Intervention 1 Adverse Water Event/Incident Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responding 24/7 to event/incident</li> <li>• Risk assessment and follow-up as indicated</li> <li>• Consultation to MOECC, public, operators, municipalities, other agencies</li> <li>• Closure orders</li> <li>• Drinking water orders and advisories to public</li> <li>• Use of DWARS-mandatory reporting</li> <li>• Media communications</li> </ul>	<p>Timely and effective detection, identification and response to drinking water contaminants and illnesses, their associated risk factors, and emerging trends, including levels of fluoride outside the recommended range.</p> <p>Water-borne illness risks are eliminated.</p>	<p># of complaints</p> <p># of adverse reports</p> <p># of closures</p> <p># of beach postings</p> <p># of BWO/A, DWO/A</p> <p># of incidents</p> <p># of communications</p>