

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

REPORT NO. OID-2025-0005

**FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF
COUNCIL**

March 5, 2025

SUBJECT: 2024 Annual Drinking Water Summary Report

1. RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. That Council review Report No. OID-2025-0005 prepared by the Water/Wastewater/Waste Division, Operations and Infrastructure Department regarding the 2024 Annual Drinking Water Summary Report dated March 5, 2025, including the following attached reports:**
 - a. Annual Water Quality Summary Report for the Keswick-Sutton Water Distribution System as required by Section 11 of Regulation 170/03, under the Safe Drinking Water Act – February 4, 2025 (attachment 1);**
 - b. Annual Summary Report for Municipal Officials as required by Schedule 22 of Regulation 170/03, under the Safe Drinking Water Act – March 5, 2025 (attachment 2).**
 - c. QMS Management Review Report – February 6, 2025 (attachment 3)**

2. PURPOSE:

This report provides information to Council related to the Town of Georgina's Water Distribution System, pursuant to requirements under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002.

3. BACKGROUND:

3.1 Standard of Care for Municipal Officials

Section 19 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) outlines the "Standard of Care" for those with oversight and decision-making authority over municipal drinking water systems, including Council members and Top Management. It mandates that these individuals apply a high level of care in their oversight of the system. Specifically, the SDWA, requires Council to:

- "Exercise the level of care, diligence and skill in respect of a municipal drinking water system that a reasonable prudent person would be expected to exercise in a similar situation", and to
- "Act honestly, competently and with integrity, with a view to ensuring the protection and safety of the users of the municipal drinking water system".

The attached reports are provided to assist Council and Top Management in fulfilling their responsibilities as decision-makers. These reports offer insight into the performance of the drinking water system and support the necessary due diligence to ensure the delivery of reliable, clean and safe drinking water to the public.

The training on Section 19, “Responsibilities Under the Statutory Standard of Care – Safe Drinking Water Act” for the Town of Georgina’s elected officials was successfully completed through eLearning, facilitated by the Walkerton Clean Water Centre.

3.2 Keswick-Sutton Drinking Water Subsystem

Within the Regional Municipality of York, the Region owns and operates water treatment, transmission and storage facilities, while the local municipalities manage water distribution and deliver water to end users.

The Region owns and operates the Keswick and Georgina Water Treatment Plants, both of which source raw water from Lake Simcoe. Additionally, the Region operates four (4) water storage towers. The Town of Georgina owns and operates the local water distribution system, which includes two (2) booster stations, watermains, service connections (up to the property line), ancillary valves, fire hydrants, meters and other related appurtenances. In compliance with the SDWA and its regulations, the Region prepares separate Summary Reports for Regional Council, which can be accessed through their website.

<https://www.york.ca/environment/water-and-wastewater/drinking-water-quality-and-monitoring>

3.3 Annual Water Quality Report

Section 11 of Ontario Regulation 170/03 under the SDWA, requires that the owner of the drinking water system prepare an annual report. This report includes a brief description of the drinking water system, a summary of test results and corrective actions taken, major expenses incurred and must cover the period from January 1st to December 31st of the previous year. The report must be made available to the public by no later than February 28 of the following year.

The Town of Georgina’s Annual Water Quality Report has been prepared and was posted to the Town’s website on February 4, 2024 (attachment #1)
<https://www.georgina.ca/sites/default/files/2025-02/2024-annual-water-quality-summary-report.pdf>

3.4 Annual Summary Report for Municipal Council

Schedule 22 of Ontario Regulation 170/03 of the SDWA mandates that the owner of the drinking water system prepare an annual report for municipal council. The purpose of this report is to ensure that the members regularly assess compliance with the terms and conditions outlined in the drinking water system's approvals, licenses, and permits as well as with the requirements of the SDWA and its regulations. Additionally, the report must also include a summary of any orders that were not met during the reporting period. The completed summary report must be submitted to the municipal council no later than March 31st of each year.

The Annual Summary Report for Municipal Council has been prepared and is attached (attachment #2).

3.5 Annual QMS Management Review Report

Section 13 of the SDWA mandates that the owner of a municipal drinking water system ensures that an accredited operating authority is in charge of the system at all times. To become an accredited operating authority a municipality must prepare an Operational Plan in conformance with the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (DWQMS). Management Review (Element 20), of DWQMS requires Top Management of the operating authority to:

- Review the drinking water system performance at least once per calendar year to evaluate the continuing suitability of, adequacy and effectiveness of the Quality Management System (QMS),
- Consider the results of the management review and identify deficiencies and action items to address the deficiencies,
- Provide a record of any decisions and action items related to the management review including personnel responsibility for delivering the action item(s) and the proposed timelines for their implementation, and
- Report the results of the management review, the identified deficiencies, decisions and action items to the owner.

The QMS Management Review Report for the 2024 calendar year is provided (attachment #3).

4. ANALYSIS:

4.1 MECP Inspection

Ontario Regulation 242/05 of SDWA, under the Compliance and Enforcement provisions, mandates that the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP) performs a variety of specific actions, including enforcing regulations and conducting inspections of municipal residential drinking water systems.

On January 28, 2025, the MECP conducted an announced inspection of the Keswick-Sutton Distribution System. The inspection covered the time period of February 6, 2024, to January 28, 2025, and the scope included a site visit of the Town’s two (2) booster stations, a standard inspection with questions and a review of the following documentation; Certification Records, Operations and Maintenance Manual, Log Books and other Records, Permits and License/Businesses Programs and Sampling/Monitoring Records.

As a result of the 2024 MECP inspection, the Town of Georgina was provided with a final report on February 20, 2025, indicating one (1) incidents of regulatory non-compliance and two (2) observations/recommendations for 2024.

4.2 Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Chlorine	Lead	Sodium	Fluoride
Range 0.05 – 1.96 mg/L	Range <0.005 mg/L – 0.0011 mg/L	Refer to York Region Annual Report	Refer to York Region Annual Report

Water Quality in the Keswick-Sutton drinking water distribution system remains excellent.

There is considerable public interest in the amount of Lead (Pb) in drinking water samples collected from schools. Currently, the Town is only required to test for Lead (Pb) in the public distribution system, not in private plumbing. The regulatory limit for Lead (Pb) is set at 0.010 mg/L. Since 2007, all Lead test results from the distribution system have consistently been well below this limit, demonstrating how the quality of drinking water remains excellent.

5. RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

Delivering service excellence

The Town of Georgina continues to provide safe drinking water to its residential and commercial customers while striving to optimize the stability of and costs associated with operating and maintaining the drinking water distribution system.

6. FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY IMPACT:

There is no financial or budgetary impact resulting from this report.

7. PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND NOTICE REQUIREMENTS:

The Annual Water Quality Report must be made available to the public on the Town's website or at the Clerk's Office by February 28. This report was completed on February 4, 2024.

The Annual Summary Report for Municipal Officials must be prepared and submitted to Council by March 31st. A public notice regarding the availability of the drinking water reports will be posted on the Town's website following March 5, 2024.

APPROVALS

Prepared By: Anna Antoniadis, DWQMS Compliance Officer

Reviewed By: Mario Puopolo, Manager, Operations
(Water/Wastewater/Waste)

Recommended By: Michael Vos, Director, Operations & Infrastructure

Approved By: Ryan Cronsberry, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

Attachment 1: 2024 Annual Water Quality Summary Report

Attachment 2: 2024 Annual Summary Report for Municipal Officials

Attachment 3: 2024 QMS Management Review Report