

NOTICE

Holland Landing Lagoons Operational Changes and Micronutrient Pilot Program

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In the Town of East Gwillimbury

March 4, 2020

The Regional Municipality of York is aware of concerns from the community about moderate odours periodically emanating from the Holland Landing Lagoons, primarily during the spring thaw and discharge periods. In an effort to further address these concerns, York Region retained an engineering consulting firm in 2019 to review the operation of this facility, perform an odour assessment, evaluate potential improvement alternatives and identify potential solutions.

Based on the review and evaluation of various odour control alternatives, the preferred approach is to implement seasonal operational changes and undertake a pilot project of adding plant-based micronutrients to the lagoons.

Seasonal operational changes

Seasonal operating changes will include diverting flows from the lagoons during winter months. The intent is to minimize the volume of raw sewage under the lagoons' ice cover. This reduces the potential for bacteria to generate and release odours during the spring thaw.

Adding plant-based micronutrients

Plant-based micronutrients act as vitamins for lagoon bacteria. York Region is proposing a pilot project to add micronutrients to the lagoons to stimulate the growth of specific, naturally occurring, bacteria that helps reduce the creation of odours.

York Region will perform ambient air monitoring at various stages of the pilot project to measure the success of seasonal operational changes and micronutrient addition. The pilot project is scheduled to finish by June 2021, subject to approval by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

If you have any questions, please contact:

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York Region