

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Friday, June 23, 2017**

**WATER WATCH**

**- Raw Sewage Discharge into Scugog River in Lindsay Brings Note of Caution  
for Those Downstream From Area -**

(LINDSAY) – A discharge of highly-diluted raw sewage into the Scugog River in Lindsay on Friday morning is bringing a note of caution for people downstream from the area.

**Drinking water is not affected by the discharge**, but people and pets should take precautions and avoid the section of the Scugog River immediately downstream (north) from the Colborne Street pumping station in Lindsay for the duration of Friday. While the raw sewage is highly-diluted, the effluent may still be high in suspended solids and E.coli, posing a potential health risk to people and pets that come in contact with it.

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit was notified Friday morning of a raw sewage overflow from the Colborne Street pumping station in Lindsay. Highly-diluted raw sewage had to be discharged from the pumping station into the river from approximately 8:50 am to 10:40 am on Friday (June 23). Heavy rains at that time, which increased flows into the pumping station, are blamed for the discharge.

As the Scugog River through Lindsay flows in a northerly direction, the Health Unit is encouraging boaters, swimmers, anglers and pet owners in that area to take precautions. It's expected the raw sewage will be diluted and dissipate by the end of the day.

“We want to stress that municipal drinking water in Lindsay is not affected by the discharge,” says Richard Ovcharovich, Manager of Environmental Health with the HKPR District Health Unit. “However, we also encourage people and pets to avoid exposure to the water in that section of the Scugog River immediately downstream from the Colborne Street pumping station for the duration of the day.”

The Ontario Clean Water Agency, which is the operating authority for the pumping station, is aware and continues to monitor the situation.

**For media inquiries, contact:**

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or Jeremy Manning, Senior Operations Manager, Ontario Clean Water Agency, (705) 731-7083.

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