

**ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS
OPEN SESSION REPORT**

TO: Mayor and members of Council
FROM: David Jackson, General Manager of Engineering and Operations
DATE: March 30, 2026
SUBJECT: Summary Report for Sarnia Drinking Water Distribution System

Recommendation

For Council's Information

Background

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, O. Reg. 170/03, Schedule 22, the City Council must be informed annually of the status of their water distribution system by the operating authority. A summary report is prepared to highlight and expand upon the Sarnia Distribution Systems 2025 Annual Report which is enclosed in this document. In addition, the annual reports are posted on the City of Sarnia's website and are available upon request at the Public Works Office (651 Devine Street).

Comments

This report is prepared for City Council as owners of the Sarnia Distribution System in accordance with Schedule 22 of O. Reg. 170/03 for the reporting period of January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025, to review a summary of water quality information. The system is operated in accordance with the requirements outlined in MDWL 037-101 and DWWP 037-201.

Sampling and Monitoring Programs:

During the four quarters of 2025, 1034 Microbiological test samples, 261 HPC samples, 16 reportable lead distribution samples, 4 THM samples, 4 HAA and 1934 chlorine residual samples were taken on a demand of 10,602,348 m³ (cubic meters) of water.

Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP) – Annual Inspection

An annual routine (announced) MECP inspection was conducted in the 2025 calendar year. The inspection concluded on December 22, 2025, reviewing the period of September 1, 2024 – November 30, 2025. The Sarnia Distribution system received a Final Inspection Rating of 100%.

Non-Compliance with Regulatory Requirements:

The Sarnia Distribution system received zero citations for non-compliance events during the 2025 annual inspection. No corrective actions were required.

Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (DWQMS)

The Drinking Water Quality Management Standard is the Quality Management Standard approved under S. 21 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002 (SDWA), and complements this legislative and regulatory framework by endorsing a proactive and preventive approach to assuring drinking water quality. This approach includes consideration of 21 elements that are fundamental to ensuring the long-term sustainability of a Drinking Water System.

The Sarnia Distribution system undergoes an annual internal audit, conducted by Acclaims Environmental for the 2025 fiscal year on September 9 and 17, 2025. The internal audit identified there are several non-conformities that are still in progress from the previous internal and external audits; no new non-conformities were identified during this audit. The Sarnia Distribution system is currently conducting an operational plan overhaul as corrective action to resolve all noted non-conformities (NC) and opportunities for improvement (OFI's). A new operational plan is to be developed in 2026 and implemented upon approval.

The DWQMS undergoes a surveillance audit (selected elements of the DWQMS) once every year and a reaccreditation audit (all elements of the DWQMS) once every three years. The Sarnia Distribution Systems re-accreditation audit was rescheduled to Spring 2026 with approval of the MECP.

Lead Reduction Plan Implementation

The City of Sarnia's Lead Reduction Plan remains in effect as required by MDWL 037-301. The Lead Reduction Plan Evaluation Report is prepared annually and submitted to the director by April 30th each year.

Annual volume record of the Lambton Area Water Supply System January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Month/Year 2025	Volume (m³)
January	740,735
February	667,352
March	734,822
April	746,817
May	850,081
June	1,080,769
July	1,106,824

Month/Year 2025	Volume (m³)
August	1,093,541
September	1,019,983
October	925,740
November	798,465
December	837,218
2025 Year Total	10,602,348
2024 Year Total	10,339,586

The Lambton Area Water Treatment Plant has a rated maximum daily flow rate of 181,844 m³/day. LAWSS total flow was recorded as 19,111,436 m³ for 2025, the City of Sarnia's proportion of the normal flow rate is approximately 55%.

Consultation

The annual report has been posted on our website to fulfill a requirement of the Safe Drinking Water Act. The annual report is attached to this report.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications related to this report. All costs associated with the operation of the water distribution system are included in the annual budget.

Reviewed by:

David Jackson
General Manager of Engineering and
Operations

Approved by:

Chris Carter
Chief Administrative Officer

This report was prepared by Haley Majovsky, Public Works Compliance Coordinator

Attachments:

- January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025 Annual Report