



## Sustainable Development

Environmental Stewardship Division  
Environmental Approvals Branch  
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www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal

December 27, 2017

To whom it may concern:

**Re: Removal of total coliform effluent standard for wastewater treatment facilities**

The Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives and Guidelines do not include total coliform as a wastewater effluent standard. Current Environment Act Licences issued to wastewater treatment facilities do not require the ongoing monitoring of total coliform or the requirement to meet an effluent standard for total coliform. The intent of this letter is to advise all licence holders that the requirement to analyze for and meet an effluent limit for total coliform is hereby removed.

Total coliform is not considered to be a reliable indicator of wastewater treatment efficacy; rather, fecal coliform or *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) should be used as a treatment indicator. Total coliforms are a group of bacteria found widely in nature including in animal manure, soil and wood; therefore, for surface waters, total coliforms are no longer recommended as an indicator for wastewater treatment, although they are still used for drinking water to indicate contamination by an outside source. Fecal coliforms are a sub-set of total coliforms and *E. coli* is a species of fecal coliform bacteria that is specific to fecal material from humans and other warm-blooded animals. Either fecal coliform or *E. coli* can be used as a wastewater treatment indicator.

As of January 1, 2018, unless otherwise specifically required thereafter, the requirement to monitor for total coliform and meet the total coliform limit is revoked with the following conditions:

- If the Licence does not have a requirement to monitor for and meet an effluent limit for either fecal coliform or *E. coli*, the licence holder shall notify the Environmental Approvals Branch to have the licence amended accordingly;
- The total coliform analysis required for initial characterization as may be required by a Licence remains in force and is still required; and
- All other clauses of the Licence remain in effect.

If you have any questions, please contact Siobhan Burland Ross, P.Eng. at 204-945-7015.

Yours sincerely,

*Original signed by*  
Tracey Braun, M.Sc.  
Director

- c. Don Labossiere - Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Branch, Sustainable Development  
Siobhan Burland Ross - Environmental Approvals Branch, Sustainable Development  
Dave Shwaluk, General Manager – Manitoba Water Services Board  
Joe Masi, Executive Director, Association of Manitoba Municipalities  
Iva Last, Executive Director, Manitoba Water and Wastewater Association  
Distribution List (see over)  
Public Registries

## Municipal and Colony Wastewater Clients - Distribution List

### Municipalities

RM of Alexander  
 RM of Alonsa  
 Town of Altona  
 Town of Arborg  
 RM of Argyle  
 RM of Armstrong  
 Town of Beausejour  
 Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton  
 Municipality of Boissevain-Morton  
 City of Brandon  
 Municipality of Brenda-Waskada  
 RM of Brokenhead  
 Town of Carberry  
 Town of Carman  
 RM of Cartier  
 Cartwright-Roblin Municipality  
 Town of Churchill  
 Municipality of Clanwilliam-Erickson  
 RM of Coldwell  
 RM of Cornwallis  
 City of Dauphin  
 RM of Dauphin  
 RM of De Salaberry  
 Municipality of Deloraine-Winchester  
 RM of Dufferin  
 Village of Dunnottar  
 RM of East St. Paul  
 RM of Ellice-Archie  
 RM of Elton  
 Municipality of Emerson-Franklin  
 Municipality of Ethelbert  
 RM of Fisher  
 City of Flin Flon  
 Gilbert Plains Municipality  
 RM of Gimli  
 Municipality of Glenboro-South Cypress  
 Municipality of Glenella-Lansdowne  
 RM of Grahamdale  
 Town of Grand Rapids  
 Grandview Municipality  
 Municipality of Grassland  
 RM of Grey  
 Hamiota Municipality  
 RM of Hanover  
 Municipality of Harrison Park  
 RM of Headingley  
 RM of Kelsey  
 RM of Killarney-Turtle Mountain  
 RM of La Broquerie  
 RM of Lac du Bonnet  
 Town of Lac du Bonnet  
 RM of Lakeshore  
 Town of Leaf Rapids  
 Municipality of Lorne  
 Municipality of Louise  
 Town of Lynn Lake  
 RM of Macdonald  
 Municipality of McCreary  
 Town of Melita  
 Municipality of Minitonas-Bowsman  
 Town of Minnedosa  
 RM of Minto-Odanah  
 RM of Montcalm  
 City of Morden  
 RM of Morris  
 Town of Morris  
 RM of Mossey River  
 RM of Mountain

LGD of Mystery Lake  
 Town of Neepawa  
 Town of Niverville  
 Municipality of Norfolk Treherne  
 Municipality of North Cypress-Langford  
 Municipality of North Norfolk  
 Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa  
 RM of Oakview  
 Municipality of Pembina  
 LGD of Pinawa  
 RM of Piney  
 RM of Pipestone  
 City of Portage la Prairie  
 RM of Portage la Prairie  
 Town of Powerview-Pine Falls  
 RM of Prairie Lakes  
 Prairie View Municipality  
 RM of Reynolds  
 Municipality of Rhineland  
 RM of Riding Mountain West  
 RM of Ritchot  
 Riverdale Municipality  
 Roblin Municipality  
 RM of Rockwood  
 RM of Roland  
 RM of Rosedale  
 Rossburn Municipality  
 RM of Rosser  
 Municipality of Russell-Binscarth  
 City of Selkirk  
 RM of Sifton  
 Town of Snow Lake  
 Municipality of Souris-Glenwood  
 RM of Springfield  
 RM of St. Andrews  
 RM of St. Clements  
 RM of St. Francois Xavier  
 RM of St. Laurent  
 Village of St. Pierre-Jolys  
 RM of Stanley  
 RM of Ste. Anne  
 Town of Ste. Anne  
 Municipality of Ste. Rose  
 City of Steinbach  
 Town of Stonewall  
 RM of Stuartburn  
 Town of Swan River  
 Municipality of Swan Valley West  
 RM of Tache  
 Town of Teulon  
 Town of The Pas  
 City of Thompson  
 RM of Thompson  
 Municipality of Two Borders  
 RM of Victoria Beach  
 RM of Victoria  
 Town of Virden  
 RM of Wallace-Woodworth  
 Municipality of West Interlake  
 RM of West St. Paul  
 Municipality of WestLake-Gladstone  
 RM of Whitehead  
 RM of Whitemouth  
 City of Winkler  
 City of Winnipeg  
 Town of Winnipeg Beach  
 RM of Woodlands  
 RM of Yellowhead

### Colonies

Acadia  
 Airport  
 Aspenheim  
 Avonlea  
 Baker  
 Barickman  
 Bloomfield  
 Blooming Prairie  
 Blue Clay  
 Blumengart  
 Bon Homme  
 Boundary Lane  
 Brantwood  
 Brightstone  
 Broad Valley  
 Canam  
 Cascade  
 Clarion  
 Clearview  
 Clearwater  
 Concord  
 Cool Spring  
 Crystal Spring  
 Cypress  
 Decker  
 Deerboine  
 Delta  
 Destiny Road  
 Eagle Creek  
 Elm River  
 Emerald  
 Evergreen  
 Fairholme  
 Fairway  
 Glenway  
 Good Hope  
 Grand  
 Grass River  
 Green Acres  
 Greenwald  
 Heartland  
 Hidden Valley  
 Hillside  
 Holmfield  
 Homewood  
 Horizon  
 Huron  
 Iberville  
 Interlake  
 James Valley  
 Kamsley  
 Keystone  
 Lakeside  
 Little Creek  
 Maple Grove  
 Marble Ridge  
 Maxwell  
 Mayfair  
 Meadow Land  
 Miami  
 Millshof  
 Milltown  
 Netley  
 New Rosedale  
 Newdale  
 Newhaven  
 Norquay  
 Northern Breeze

Oak River  
 Oak Bluff  
 Oakland  
 Oakridge  
 Odanah  
 Parkview  
 Pembina  
 Pine Creek  
 Pineland  
 Plainview  
 Poplar Point  
 Prairie Blossom  
 Ridgeland  
 Ridgeville  
 Riverbend  
 Riverdale  
 Riverside  
 Rock Lake  
 Rolling Acres  
 Rose Valley  
 Rosebank  
 Rosedale  
 Shady Lane  
 Silverwinds  
 Skyview  
 Sommerfeld  
 Souris River  
 Spring Hill  
 Spring Valley  
 Springfield  
 Sprucewood  
 Starlite  
 Sturgeon Creek  
 Suncrest  
 Suncrest Farm  
 Sunnyside  
 Treesbank  
 Trileaf  
 Twilight  
 Valley View  
 Vermillion  
 Waldheim  
 Wellwood  
 Westroc  
 Westview  
 Whiteshell  
 Willow Creek  
 Windy Bay  
 Wingham  
 Woodland