

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study Norwich Wastewater Treatment Plant Capacity Expansion

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Oxford County owns and operates the Norwich Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), which provides tertiary treatment for wastewater generated in the Township of Norwich. The WWTP consists of two facultative lagoon cells and four intermittent sand filters that polish the WWTP effluent prior to discharge to Otter Creek.

In 2011, Oxford County initiated a Municipal Class EA Study (Class EA Study) to upgrade and/or expand the facility in anticipation of projected development and associated WWTP flows. However, between 2011 and 2015, growth in the community was not at the level anticipated, and the County experienced a reduction in water usage (and subsequently wastewater flows). As a result, in June 2016, County Council approved that the Class EA Study be put on hold until which time increased development rates and associated WWTP flow rates are observed.

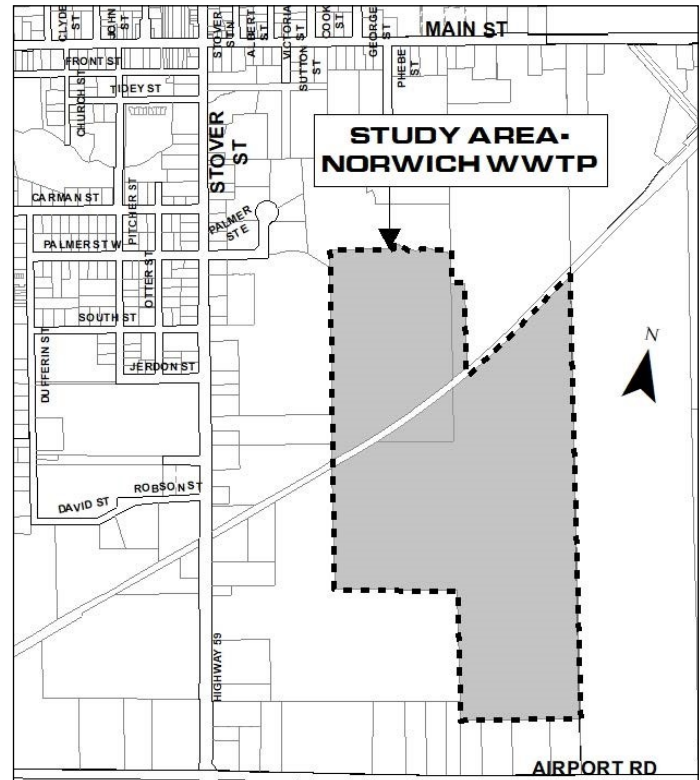
THE STUDY

In response to approved future growth in the Township of Norwich, and associated projected increases in WWTP flow rates, Oxford County has re-initiated the Class EA Study for capacity expansion of the Norwich WWTP. The Class EA Study will determine the most cost-effective, environmentally sound, and sustainable approach to servicing the Norwich WWTP to meet the wastewater servicing needs of the community within the 25-year planning horizon. The project is being completed as a **Schedule "C"** project in accordance with the *Municipal Class Environmental Assessment* (October 2000, amended in 2007, 2011 & 2015), which is approved under the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act*.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

This notice signals the commencement of the Municipal Class EA Study, a Study which will identify and evaluate alternative solutions to develop a preferred WWTP capacity expansion design concept in consultation with adjacent property owners, regulatory agencies, indigenous communities, members of the local business community and the public.

Public consultation will occur during the course of the study to present and receive comments on the project, alternative solutions, and the preferred alternative for expanding the wastewater treatment capacity of the Norwich WWTP. Details, including time and location, will be announced via a subsequent notice and posted to the County's project webpage: www.oxfordcounty.ca/Projects-studies



Upon completion, an Environmental Study Report will be prepared and made available for final public review and comment.

COMMENTS INVITED

If you have any questions or comments regarding the study, or wish to be added to the Study mailing list, please contact either of the following project team members:

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Comments received through the course of the Study will be considered and documented in the Environmental Study Report.

Information collected will be used in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public records.

This Notice first issued on May 10, 2021