

Staff Report



To	Committee of the Whole
Service Area	Infrastructure, Development and Environment
Date	Tuesday, April 7, 2026
Subject	2025 Water Services' Annual Report, Summary Report and Water Efficiency Strategy Progress Report

Recommendation

1. That Guelph City Council receives the 2025 Water Services' Annual Report and Summary Report
 2. That Guelph City Council receives the 2025 Water Efficiency Strategy Progress Report
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Executive Summary

Purpose of Report

The 2025 Water Services' Annual Report and Summary Report have been prepared in accordance with the [Safe Drinking Water Act](#) (SDWA, 2002); and regulatory reporting required under [O. Reg. 170/03](#) – Section 11 and Schedule 22 and must be received by Council.

The 2025 Water Services' Annual Report (Attachment-1) must be prepared no later than February 28, 2026, and must include a brief description of the drinking water system, a summary of adverse water quality results, a summary of results of required tests, a description of corrective actions taken, a description of major expenses incurred and the location where the public can access a copy of the Water Services Annual Summary Report.

The 2025 Water Services' Summary Report (Attachment-2) must also be prepared and provided to the owners of the drinking water system no later than March 31, 2026. The Summary Report includes information regarding applicable legislation, a statement of compliance, including a summary of the latest inspection results, and a summary of water consumption and flow rates.

Due to the regulatory requirements noted above, the Water Services' Annual Report and Summary Report are presented as a separate report from the Corporate Annual Report.

Council approved the [2016 Water Efficiency Strategy](#) (WES) defined programs, policies, and resources to help the City meet reduction targets in average daily water production set-out in the [2014 Water Supply Master Plan](#) and the [2022 Water Supply Master Plan Update](#). The 2025 Water Efficiency Strategy Progress Report (Attachment-3) outlines the individual program successes and the progress to date

in achieving the reduction target of 9,147 cubic metres in average daily production by 2038.

Key Findings

- In 2025, Water Services maintained its commitment of providing consumers in the City of Guelph and the Gazer Mooney subdivision in Guelph/Eramosa Township with a safe, consistent supply of high-quality drinking water while meeting or exceeding, and continually improving on, legal, operational and quality management system requirements.
- Since the implementation of the 2016 WES, the cumulative water savings achieved to date is 2,738 cubic metres per day.
- The total water savings achieved for 2025 was 269 cubic metres per day, falling short of the annual target (716 cubic metres per day).
- Average daily residential water use in Guelph (164 litres per person) increased by 1.8 litres in 2024 from 2023, remaining below the provincial (187 litres per person) and national (223 litres per person) averages. 2025 consumption data is not finalized in time to be included in the annual report.
- In 2025, 547 rebate applications and audits were completed through the City's residential rebate programs. An additional audit and three business upgrades were processed, along with upgrades to three City facilities.
- Various indirect water savings programs, public outreach and education programs were also delivered to Guelph residents to motivate water conservation and efficiency action.

Strategic Plan Alignment

The City's strategic plan theme 'Environment' supports the objective to conserve and protect Guelph's drinking water. Ontario Safe Drinking Water Act (2002) requires municipalities to prepare and submit an Annual Report and a Summary Report for review and approval by the system Owner (City Council).

Future Guelph Theme

Environment

Future Guelph Objectives

Environment: Empower the community to help create a sustainable city

Financial Implications

All financial implications of the Report were included as part of the Council-approved 2025 Water Services Non-Tax Operating and Capital Budgets.

Report

2025 Annual Report

The 2025 Water Services' Annual Report, Attachment-1, has been prepared in accordance with terms and requirements set out in the Safe Drinking Water Act (2002), Section 11 of Ontario Regulation 170/03. It covers the period from January 1 to December 31, 2025, and the owner (City of Guelph Mayor and Council) must ensure that the annual report is prepared no later than February 28, 2026. As per Section 11 of the regulation, the report includes:

1. Brief Description of the Drinking Water System

2. Summary of Adverse Water Quality Results
3. Summary of Results of Required Tests
4. Description of Corrective Actions Taken
5. Description of Major Expenses Incurred; and
6. Location of Summary Report

Copies of the City of Guelph's 2025 [Water Services' Annual Report](#) are available electronically through the City's website.

2025 Summary Report

In addition to the Annual Report, Schedule 22 of Ontario Regulation 170/03 requires large municipal residential water systems to complete a Summary Report. The 2025 Water Services' Summary Report, Attachment-2, covers the same time period as the annual report and must be prepared and received by the owner of the system not later than March 31, 2026. The report follows the requirements prescribed in Schedule 22 of the regulation for the purpose of enabling the owner of the system to assess the capability of the system to meet existing and planned uses of the system and includes:

1. Applicable Legislation
2. Statement of Compliance
3. Summary of Quantities and Flow Rates; and
4. Communication

Drinking Water Inspection Results

As the Operating Authority for both the City of Guelph Drinking Water System and the Gazer Mooney Subdivision Distribution System, City of Guelph Water Services' is inspected annually by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) for compliance with regulatory requirements. The primary focus of this inspection is to confirm compliance with MECP legislation as well as evaluating conformance with ministry drinking water policies and guidelines during the inspection period. The ministry utilizes a comprehensive, multi-barrier approach in the inspection of water systems that focuses on the source, treatment, and distribution components as well as management practices.

The annual MECP Inspection for 2025-2026 for the City of Guelph Drinking Water System began September 17, 2025, and on October 1, 2025 for the Gazer Mooney distribution system.

There were two non-compliances with regulatory requirements, both were self-identified prior to this inspection and noted in the final report. No further actions are required. Corrective actions were implemented at the time of the incidents.

Note: the non-compliances identified did not result in any improperly treated water reaching customers.

Financial Implications

All financial implications of the Report were included as part of the Council-approved 2025 Water Services Non-Tax Operating and Capital Budgets.

Consultations

Departmental consultation completed in support of the 2025 Water Services Annual Report, Summary Report and Water Efficiency Strategy Progress Report include:

- Engineering and Transportation Services
- Finance
- Planning and Building Services

Attachments

Attachment-1 2025 Water Services' Annual Report

Attachment-2 2025 Water Services' Summary Report

Attachment-3 2025 Water Efficiency Strategy Progress Report

Departmental Approval

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