



East Lagoon Temporary Operational Changes

As you may know, the Resort Village of Candle Lake owns and operates two lagoons – the east lagoon and the west lagoon.

To operate a lagoon in Saskatchewan, a municipality must hold a “permit to operate a sewage works” issued by The Saskatchewan Water Security Agency. In addition, the east lagoon must adhere to the requirements of the Canadian Fisheries Act.

Within a permit to operate a sewage works, annual monitoring and effluent analysis is required. Required samples taken at the east lagoon in the fall of 2021 failed to meet federal and provincial requirements.

Because of these non-compliant sample results, as well as other operational non-compliances, the RVCL, in consultation with the Water Security Agency and Associated Engineering, made the decision to direct our local sewage haulers to divert all hauled sewage to the west lagoon as of January 15, 2022.

The non-compliance from the east lagoon has been a concern for a number of years and we have and will continue to work to remedy the situation. Finding the solution to become compliant includes reviewing current waste-waster operations, testing, processes, and procedures. We aim to have the east lagoon fully functioning and compliant as soon as possible.

A healthy environment is a priority for the RVCL, and we will address all issues that may be unfavorably impacting our environment. We thank the residents of RVCL for their patience as we conduct this important work.

Frequently Asked Questions about the East Lagoon Temporary Operational Changes

Why are the effluent tests from the east lagoon not being deemed acceptable – what is the problem?

RVCL staff is collecting data to determine why this lagoon has not produced acceptable effluent. Any issues found will be addressed by the RVCL as soon as is reasonably possible.

When do you expect the east lagoon to be back in operation?

The lagoon system is a complex operation and system issues typically takes time to be remedied. Upon the coming spring discharge and testing we hope to have a more accurate understanding of when the lagoon can be used again. We will provide regular updates on the status of our work and the potential re-opening date as more information becomes available.

Is the sewage from all neighbourhoods in the RVCL being diverted to the west lagoon?

The sewage from all neighbourhoods in the RVCL is being diverted to the west lagoon, with the exception of some neighbourhoods around the Golf Course. These neighbourhoods are on a continuous flow sewage system; wastewater is collected by the Golf Course and is pumped directly from households and businesses to the lagoon.

Does the east lagoon have capacity to continue accepting wastewater from the Golf Course neighbourhoods without conducting any discharges?

For the time being, yes, although capacity will now be more closely monitored.

My sewage hauler has started charging me more to haul my sewage to the west lagoon, as it's a longer distance. Will the Village cover these additional costs?

Fees to haul sewage are set by individual sewage hauling companies. We thank our residents for their patience and support as we work to ensure our wastewater systems are operating as they should be.