

Southwest Guelph Water Supply Class EA

Quarterly Progress Update, September 2025

The City of Guelph (City) launched the Southwest Guelph Water Supply Class Environmental Assessment (SWG EA) in September 2021. This project includes a data gathering process called an Operational Testing Program (OTP). This six-stage, multi-year program aims to determine the safe and sustainable quantity of groundwater that can be pumped from both existing and new City production wells. The Operational Testing Program will evaluate two key objectives: (1) determine the management strategy for the Dolime Quarry pond after the quarry has closed, to ensure the protection of high-quality groundwater in the surrounding aquifer, and (2) identify sustainable methods for the City to pump a portion of the additional water needed to meet future community demands.

Update to Operational Testing Program Stages 5 & 6

Stages 5 & 6 of the OTP have been completed and included field testing of the GSTW01-20 Test Well as a potential future water supply source. In addition to pumping GSTW01-20 during Stages 5 & 6, the tests also included pumping at the existing City production wells in Southwest Guelph. The Stage 5 test occurred from June 2nd to June 30th, 2025, and included pumping at GSTW01-20 from June 23rd to 27th, 2025. The Stage 6 test occurred from July 8th to August 8th, 2025, and included pumping at GSTW01-20 for the entirety of the testing period. The SWG EA will now utilize the OTP data along with existing data to evaluate all the Test Wells in Southwest Guelph (GSTW01-20, Ironwood, and Steffler) as potential future water supply sources, as outlined in the 2022 Water Supply Master Plan.

Next Steps

Public Information Centre #1 will be held on Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 6:30 PM at the West End Recreation Centre, located at 21 Imperial Road South, Guelph, to discuss the SWG EA with the public and other interested parties.

