



**Championing Ontario's
Water and Wastewater
Sector**

January 28, 2020



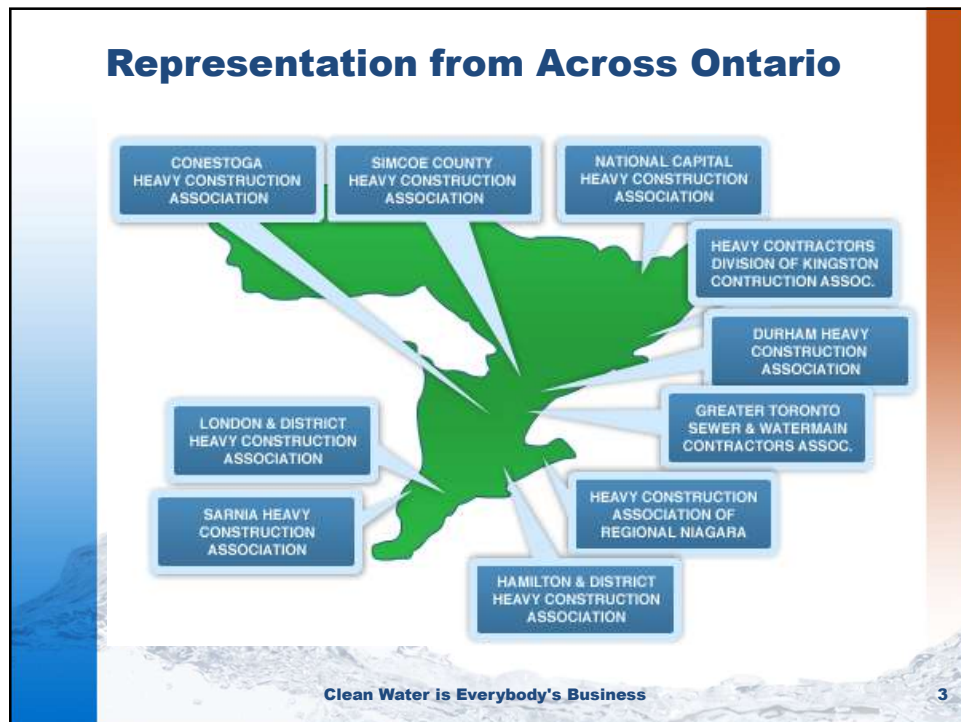
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About OSWCA

- OSWCA has represented the provincial Sewer and Watermain construction sector since **1971**.
- We presently represent over **800 companies** including contractors, manufacturers, distributors, and consulting engineers.
- Our companies directly employ upwards of **15,000 workers** in peak season.
- Collectively, we are involved in constructing **\$ billions** in capital projects each year.
- We champion environmental protection and best practices in safety and water system management.

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A collage of four images: a Toronto Municipal Code sign with a 'NO SWIMMING' symbol, a close-up of a sewer pipe, a cross-section of a large pipe, and a close-up of water being poured into a pipe.

Why Does the OSWCA exist?



OSWCA
Ontario Sewer & Watermain
Construction Association

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What you may not know

Great Lakes
provide drinking water to nearly

40 million

people & 80% of Ontarians

Ontario
has a current backlog of infrastructure
investment of

\$12.5 billion

In addition to the \$20-40 billion in upkeep,
rehabilitation and expansion.

Much of Ontario's water system
was built in 1950s,
with some dating back to

1870s



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Impacts: Economic

Ontario taxpayers pay

\$700 million

for water lost to leaks

Damage from flooding during 2013
storm in Toronto alone cost

\$1 billion

& up to 20% rise in some insurance
premiums

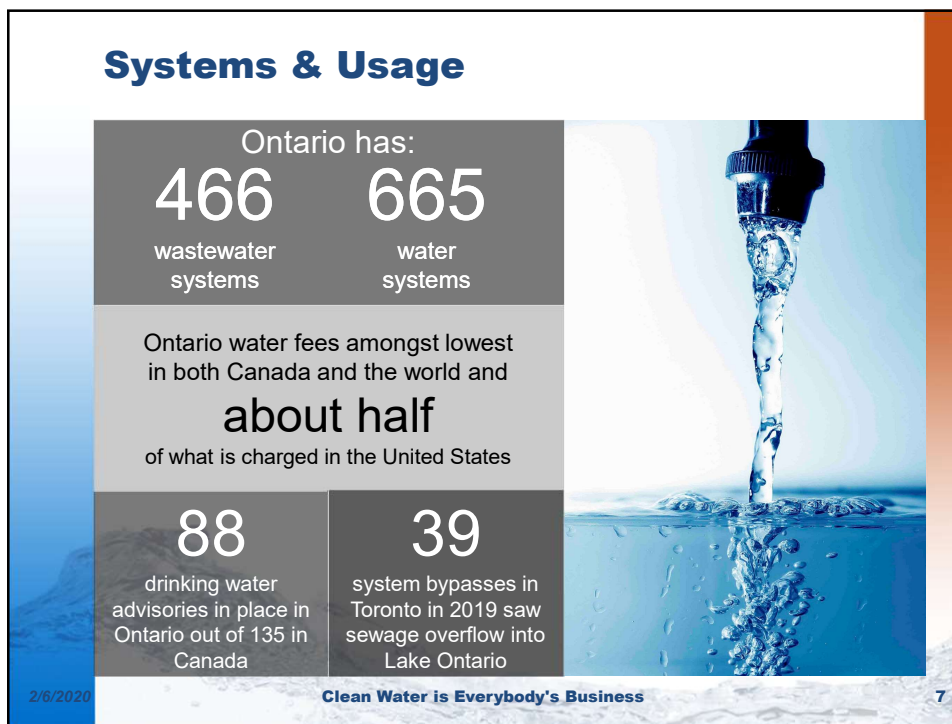
\$1 billion

investment could create between
11,500 & 47,000 jobs



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Impact: Overall

- Underinvestment has major implications for the state of our drinking water; the cleanness of our lakes and rivers; the well-being of our natural habitats; our health; and the economy.
- The current patchwork of systems is costly, hinders effective infrastructure planning, and in some cases has proven to have dangerous consequences.



ECONOMIC



ENVIRONMENT



HEALTH

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Impacts: Environmental

50%

of original Great Lakes wetlands have been lost due to water levels, sedimentation, contaminants, development & climate change

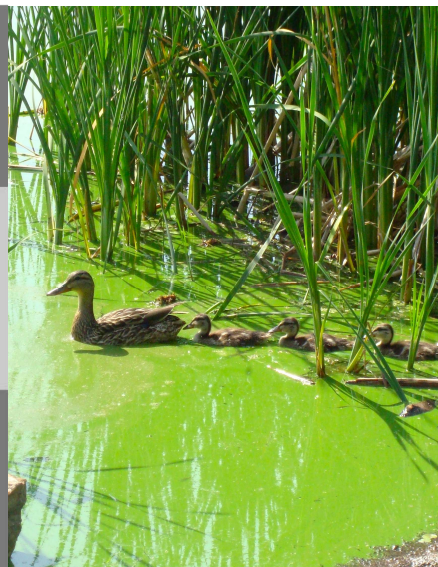
Ontario could save emissions & enough electricity to power

95%

of all homes in Toronto by repairing existing water infrastructure

650

chemicals are being flushed into lakes & rivers, many of which are not captured by traditional wastewater systems



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Impacts: Health

300,000

Canadians contract acute stomach bugs every year from municipally supplied water

13%

of Toronto's drinking water contained unsafe levels of lead

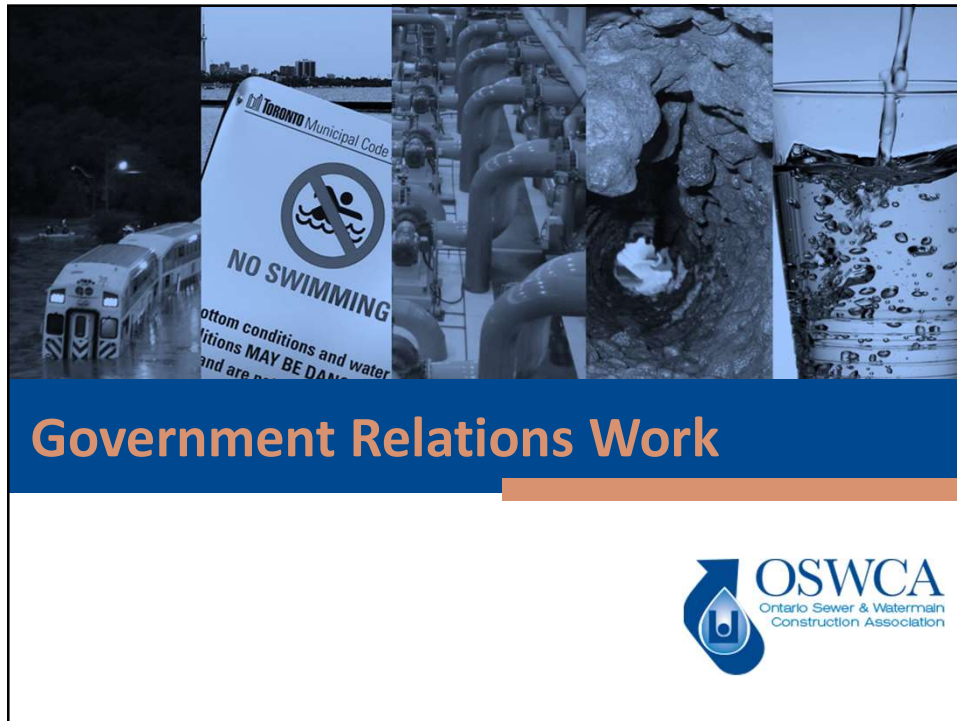
Sewage polluted water can contain pathogens including heavy metals, pharmaceuticals & chemicals and can cause illness and infections



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What the OSWCA Preaches

Major and sustained investments must be made to close the gap and ensure we have clean drinking water, fully treated wastewater, and are prepared for the impact of climate change.

- 1 Dedicated Funding Stream for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure
- 2 Regional Approach to Water Management & System Integration
- 3 Legislative and Regulatory reform to lessen the impact to contractors "red-tape" reduction

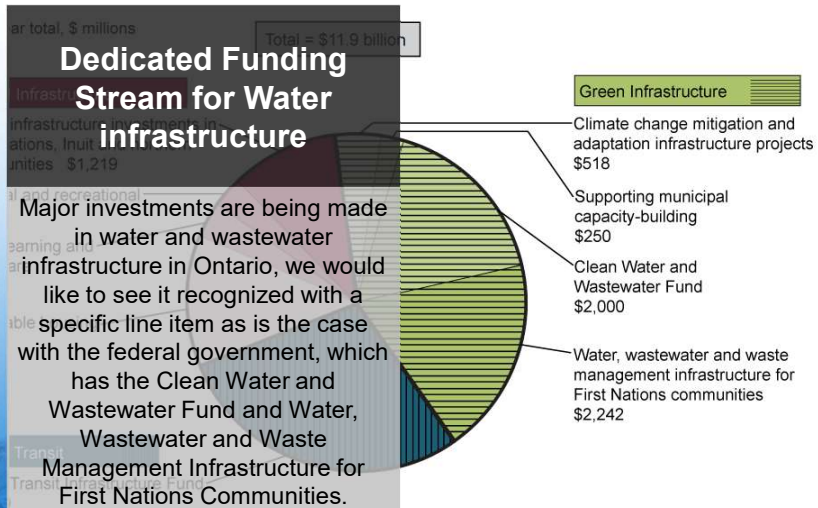
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Recommendation: Dedicated Funding



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Recommendation: Regional Approach

Regional Approach to Water Management & System Integration

The complexity of our water systems requires an integrated approach on a regional or watershed basis. Consolidation or integration by region or watershed would provide greater certainty and capacity around long term planning.



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Recommendation: Legislative and Regulatory Reform

**Amendments to
Legislation and
Regulation lessen
burdens**

List of Legislative and Regulatory reform:

- Construction Act
- College of Trades removal
- One Call
- Excess Soils
- Open Tendering
- Permit to Take Water
- WSIB Multi-year Rate Reduction


To name a few...




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Late Locates



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Locate Impacts

- Excessive delays in the delivery of utility locates is a primary cause for the late delivery of core infrastructure projects in major urban centres across the province
- The Act was expected to reduce 'red tape' and speed up the delivery of utility locates by centralizing the processing of locate requests within one organization, and yet utility locates now take longer to deliver and construction project timelines are being negatively impacted as a result



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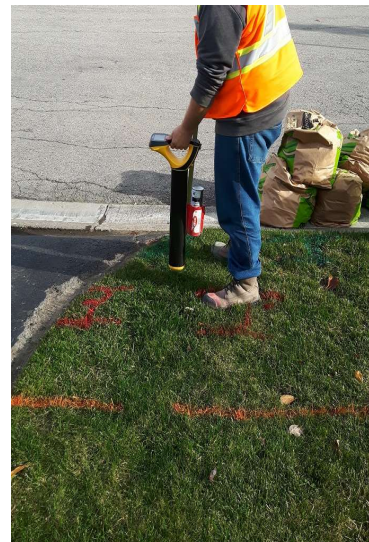
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Reasons for Late Locate

- A major reason why locates are not delivered within the legislated timeframes: **no prescribed penalties for the late delivery of utility locates.**
- **No set fines for the late delivery of locates = No consequences for delays.**
- Some owners of underground infrastructure do not supply adequate resources to meet the legislated delivery timelines **because they have no incentive to do so.**



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What is the OSWCA Doing?

The OSWCA has consistently bombarded the Provincial Government with a call for penalties to be instituted against LSP's that are not performing within the 5-day legislated timeframe.

In January 2019 we requested the following from Ontario One Call:

- ❑ Total number of complaints received in 2018
 - ❑ categorized based on what sectors the complaints came from,
 - ❑ the reason for the complaint, and
 - ❑ what region of the province the complaint originated from;
- ❑ Average delivery time for locate requests in 2018
 - ❑ categorized by construction project vs. individual residence;
- ❑ Detail on the performance of each locate service provider and each utility company
 - ❑ average delivery time for locates categorized by construction project vs. individual residence

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What is the OSWCA Doing?

The OSWCA has consistently bombarded the Provincial Government with a call for penalties to be instituted against LSP's that are not performing within the 5-day legislated timeframe.

- ❑ Overview of the One Call discipline process for utility companies and locate service providers who **consistently miss the locate delivery timeline**;
- ❑ Statistical overview of disciplinary actions taken in 2018 based on registered complaints;
- ❑ Year-over-year statistics on number of locate requests received
 - ❑ categorized by construction project vs. individual residence;
- ❑ Forward planning on what One Call is doing to address ongoing issues with the late delivery of locates.

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Outcome of OSWCA Efforts

Due to the OSWCA's consistent focus on this issue, the following has recently occurred:


- ❑ The Ministry of Government and Consumer Services is now requiring One Call to report more accurate statistics related to late locates, specifically,
 - ❑ number of locates received versus number delivered in 5-days

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Theft Prevention and Recovery



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The Rationale for the Program



OSWCA Contractors were Frustrated with Regular Police Recovery Methods

In 2000 the OSWCA hired a retired OPP Detective Constable with 32 years experience in the Auto Theft Section, to act as our primary Investigator for Construction Equipment Theft

In 2015, that program was expanded and a second retired OPP Detective Constable was added to the program

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The Equipment Recovery Program

OSWCA Recovery Program Boasts over a 50% Recovery Rate

Since its inception, the OSWCA Equipment Recovery Program has been instrumental in locating and recovering our members stolen equipment.

Our consultants work closely with our Members across Ontario as well as undertaking parallel investigations with Law Enforcement Authorities.

The OSWCA Recovery Program remains the only one of its kind for Construction in Ontario.



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What If My Equipment is Stolen

If you or your employees discover that equipment has been stolen from your construction site, there are several steps that need to be done as soon as possible

1

Upon notification of a theft, you need to prepare the information you will provide to the Police for recovery

The basic information Police require is as follows:

- ☐ when was the equipment last seen,
- ☐ where was the equipment stolen from
 - ☐ (Site locations, shop, etc)
- ☐ the make of the equipment
- ☐ the equipment model
- ☐ the Vehicle Identification Number (V.I.N.),
- ☐ along with any special attachments or other features that would make your equipment stand out from other similar units

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2

Call the police in that specific region or municipality.

- ☐ inform the Police you want to report the theft of a **high valued piece of construction equipment.**
- ☐ If the Police Operator asks you to attend the Station to make a report, advise the Operator that there may be physical evidence of the theft at the scene and you would like an Officer to attend

3

While you are waiting for the Police to arrive, attempt to locate any closed circuit tv cameras in the area that may provide evidence of the theft or assist in identifying the thieves

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4

After the Officer has taken all information for their report, request the Officer's name and badge number and request the incident number for this occurrence

5

Now contact the OSWCA

- ☐ Email equipmentrecovery@oswca.org which will notify the entire staff and our consultants that a theft has taken place

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Our OSWCA Equipment Recovery Consultant will then contact you directly to obtain details of the theft

- ☐ They will then begin an independent investigation as well as contact the Police directly.

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A Stolen Equipment Alert will be broadcast throughout the OSWCA in attempt to try and recover your equipment through other Members

- ☐ Our members have spotted stolen equipment parked in a public location such as a Shopping Mall, back alley or open field.
- ☐ This is a common practice with thieves after they steal equipment to see if it has a tracking system installed and Police arrive to recover it.

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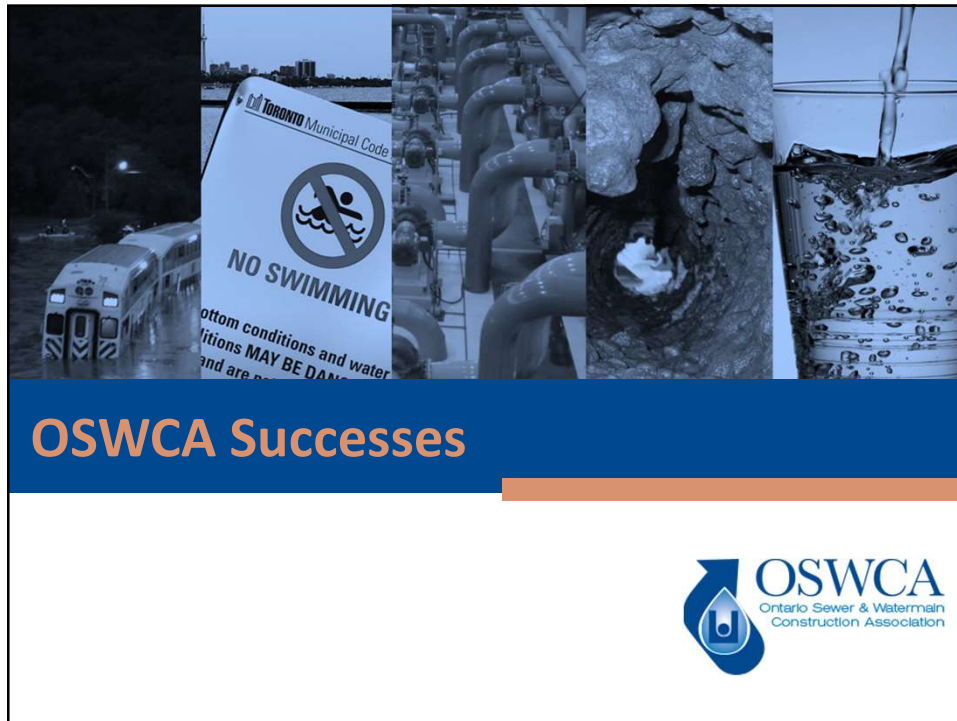
Call your Insurance Company and advise them of the theft and provide them with all the information they require including your Police Report number and the OSWCA Equipment Recovery Consultant's Contact

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How do I keep up to date with everything?

OSWCA has a systematic communications plan to ensure that our members have the most up to date information.

- 1 Weekly OSWCA members bulletins delivered electronically directly to all of our members, containing information of our most recent activities.
- 2 Bi-monthly meetings with the OSCWA Board of Directors with simplified information sheets distributed to all local associations.
- 3 Quarterly updates in the [H₂OSCWA Magazine](#) as well as in-depth articles on the issues that affect all our members.
- 4 OSWCA Annual Report containing all of the highlights from each year.

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Snap-Shot of our 2019 Successes

OSWCA is a dynamic association and does not rely on its past successes solely. It continually strives to make a difference for all our members.

1

WSIB – Over 20% in premium rate reduction

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Open Tendering – province passed legislation that removed closed tendering provisions from municipal purchasing by-laws Bill 166

3

Excess Soil Regulations – Ministry put in place new regulations for soil management, reuse and transportation; including risk-based standards for reuse, as well as new tools to work with municipalities around classification and illegal dumping

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Expansion of the Permit to Take Water – expansion of electronic permitting for permit to take water and increasing allowable limits for the EASR system, based on risk

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Look Ahead at 2020

The matters that most affect our members will be directly in the cross-hairs of the OSWCA.

1

Labour shortages and how we can attract and retain more workers for all necessary construction categories. Legislated and regulatory reform to open more training opportunities. As well as employment insurance reform.

2

Community Benefit Agreements – NCC proposing to include CBA's on development agreements and infrastructure projects on the Lebreton Flats Redevelopment

3

Litigation Exclusion Clauses – large component of the construction industry looking to prohibit the use of litigation exclusion clauses in municipal contracts

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Strategic Planning – mapping out the OSWCA goals over the next 5 years. We welcome your input on how to better serve you.

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Questions???

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