Press Release

Contact Information:
Robert A. Brown Jr, City Manager
City of Wakefield
Office: 906.229.5131
citymanager@cityofwakefieldmi.gov

For Immediate Release

Sanitary Sewer Overflow Event

Wakefield, MI. (07MAR26)- At approximately 7:30 AM CST, the City of Wakefield experienced a regional power outage that disrupted operations within the municipal sanitary sewer system.

Due to the power failure, the Plymouth Lift Station located on Old US-2 temporarily lost normal pumping capability. As wastewater levels increased within the lift station holding tank, City utility staff initiated an emergency response to relieve pressure in the sewer system in order to prevent sewage from backing up into homes.

At approximately 9:30 AM, City crews pumped sewage from the lift station holding tank to a nearby ditch line. The emergency pumping operation ended at approximately 9:55 AM once system conditions stabilized, and power was restroed. An estimated 8,000 gallons of raw sewage was discharged during this period.

City personnel applied lime to the affected area to disinfect the site. The City has notified the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) and the Western Upper Peninsula Health Department. Based on the event's location and duration.

Based on the location and limited duration of the event, the risk to the public is minimal. Individuals should avoid direct contact with the affected area, such as playing in or around the ditch line.

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