

City of Three Rivers Wastewater Treatment Plant 409 Wolf Road • Three Rivers, Michigan 49093

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City of Three Rivers Wastewater Treatment Plant Press Release July 27, 2023

The City of Three Rivers Wastewater Treatment Plant had an estimated 20,000 gallons of untreated wastewater that was discharged into the St. Joseph River. The issue was identified at 8:18 p.m. on July 26, 2023, and resolved at 11:30 p.m. Last evening's multiple rounds of heavy rainfall overwhelmed the pumps that are directing waste to the plant. These pumps are being used as the city continues to complete repairs to the force main break which occurred earlier this month. Officials of the Wastewater Treatment Plant along with the City of Three Rivers are actively investigating preventative measures for future events.

Persons are advised to avoid any body contact with the St. Joseph River from the Broadway Street Bridge to the Withers Road Bridge. This advisory includes any type of body contact with the river for recreational activities such as tubing, kayaking, swimming, canoeing, or fishing. It is also advised to keep animals out of the water. The advisory is in effect until water samples from the river have been analyzed and demonstrate that coliform levels are back at normally expected amounts. Anyone having contact with the river after 8:18 p.m. Wednesday is advised to take a shower and wash any clothing that was in contact with the river. Pets should also be bathed if they were in contact with the water. If you have concerns about your health, contact your provider.

Taylor Davis
Wastewater Superintendent
City of Three Rivers