

RM OF  
PIPESTONE

Public Water System Annual Report  
Summary of 2023

Prepared by:

Tyson Anderson, Manager of Utilities

(Free paper copies of this report can be made available at the town office  
upon request)

To report an emergency, call our on-call phone @ 204-851-1480

The Rm of Pipestone's water system is known as a "Satellite System". The water pipeline supplied by the Rm of Wallace-Woodworth is able to service not only the town of Reston but our rural residents along with our other rural communities of Sinclair and Cromer. It is the goal of the Utilities department to provide safe, cost-effective drinking water to residents of the Rm of Pipestone while staying in compliance with the regulatory requirement's governing provision of drinking water.

BWA = Boil Water Advisory

ODW = Office of Drinking Water

JRCC = J.R Cousin Consulting (Engineer)

MWSB = Manitoba Water Services Board

### **Where do we get our drinking water from?**

We get our drinking water from our bordering RM of Wallace-Woodworth through various sizes of water pipelines ranging from 2 inch to 8 inch. We have 3 water shacks located all on road 53 where the water is metered and then piped to our residents. We check these water shack 3 times per week to check for proper pressures and to make sure we have no leaks in our system. The water source for the Rm of Wallace is a secure ground water and is treated with sodium hypochlorite for disinfection. It arrives by pipeline to our reservoir or directly to your tap if you're in the rural.

### **What kind of chemical treatment do we use?**

The Rm of Wallace-Woodworth provides us with clean, safe drinking water treated from their water plant. Our job is to test the chlorine levels every day to ensure the chlorine levels are above government standards. Our standards are to keep chlorine levels higher than .1 mg/l at the farthest end of our distribution system. Over the whole year of 2023 we met 100% compliance with this standard. Since the addition of a 2<sup>nd</sup> cell at the Reston Water Plant, we dose 10mg/L of sodium hypochlorite per hour to help boost our chlorine residual.

## Guidelines as for testing as per our Drink Water License

Test results from Rm of Wallace-Woodworth

Water System Code 168.5

Parameter and MAC (only applies to treated)	Guide Limit	Treated
Arsenic	Less than or equal to 0.01mg/L	<0.0001 mg/L
Benzene	.005 Mg/L	<0.00050 Mg/L
Fluoride	1.5 Mg/L	0.035 Mg/L
Lead	0.01 Mg/L	0.000126 Mg/L
Nitrate	10 Mg/L	0.0413 Mg/L
Trichloroethylene	1.005 Mg/L	<0.00050 Mg/L
Tetrachloroethylene	0.01 Mg/L	<0.00050 Mg/L
Uranium	.02 Mg/L	<0.000466 Mg/L

## Bacteriological Sample and Chlorine Residual Results

Parameter	Treated	Distribution
Total Coliform-Less than one detected per....	100% (26/26 samples)	100% (26/26 samples)
E.Coli- Less than one...	100% (26/26 samples)	100% (26/26 samples)
Free Chlorine Entering the Distribution system 0.5 mg/L	100% (365/365 samples)	100% (26/26 samples)

Samples are taken from 4 places:

1. Reston water plant distribution side
2. RM of Pipestone Office in Reston
3. Town of Sinclair
4. Town of Cromer (Road 48 and highway 256 water shack)

## **How much water storage do we have?**

After completing the reservoir expansion we have approx. 190,000 imperial gallons of water. This 2<sup>nd</sup> reservoir helps to ensure we have adequate supply of water in drought years or fire protection.

## **Is our water tested? What for? When?**

Our water is tested and sent to Winnipeg to be analyzed by ALS in their lab. We take samples every 2 weeks. The sample points are the water plant in Reston, the RM office in Reston and we alternate between Sinclair and Cromer each time we test. We test for 2 different things, **Total Coliforms and Escherichia Coli**. These test results are submitted to the provincial Office of Drinking Water for review. In 2023 we met all the provincial standards.

## **What do we have to alert Rm of Pipestone residents of water emergencies?**

We have set up an emergency telephone system that allows us to get the first phone call out within minutes of the emergency happening. This new system also includes the features of texting and emailing residents. We have had great feedback on the new system texting out our alerts. People have found that even if they miss the phone call, they see the text regardless. If the rate payer affected can not be reached a BWA paper will leave on the front door. Please ensure that the Rm has an up-to-date phone number where you can be reached at. Every year we are to send an emergency response plan to the province.

## **Were there any emergencies to report in 2023?**

On August 15<sup>th</sup> the RM of Pipestone was informed that we would be losing our water to the 171 water line and the 168 water line. The cause of this pressure loss was due to a well failure that took several days to fix. They tried to start up their 2<sup>nd</sup> well and it also failed. Once Wallace-Woodworth was able

to get the well back working again we slowly refill out lines, flushed and samples at different points to ensure the water was safe. Since this problem arose the RM of Pipestone has been working with Wallace-Woodworth and MWSB to bring in a 3<sup>rd</sup> well that is able to be used in the event of a well 1 going down.

We also had a small leak appear around a curb stop at a rate payers house. It was found that the service line to the house was leaking. We pulled a new service line into the house and reconnected them. The line was flushed and sampled and put back in to the service when the samples came back clean.

### **Utility Department Leak Trailer**

We have a 16' enclosed trailer and have filled it with every part that could be needed to repair a leak in the rural, town of Reston, Sinclair and Cromer. The reason for this is that each town and in the rural all take different parts due to different ages of infrastructure. We have added a new fusing machine and generator to this trailer. This fusing machine will be able to repair and HDPE along with electro fusion couplers that we stock. We have added to the trailer a few new items and features. We added a vice to the work bench to ensure clean cuts on pipe and a new Honda generator capable of running out fusing machine and any lights or tools that may be needed at the job site. We have also added significant stock to our Utility shop due to the shortages that were faced in 21 and 22. We stock every part that is required to repair the water line that may be affected. In 2022 we quadrupled this stock to ensure that we are always able to rely on a timely repair and get the water restore to our rate payers as fast and as safe as we can. This stock is still the same amount in 2024 as it was in 2022 and 2023.

### **Future system expansion**

In 2023 we replace the water lines along Lucy Ave with a new 6” water main including a new fire hydrant. The RM of Pipestone created 8 new services lots at the Lucy Ave development. 5 Existing houses were also connected to the new water line. The water line has been shut off and abandoned.

### **Classification and Certification**

- The Pipestone PWS system is classified as ‘Class 1 Water Distribution’ under the *Environment Act*.
- Certification Level of Operators;

Utility Manager: Tyson Anderson – Water Treatment Class 1, Water Distribution Class 1, Wastewater Treatment Class 1 and Wastewater Distribution Class 1

Utility Operator: Arvin Reyes – Water Treatment Class 1, Water Distribution Class 1, Wastewater Treatment Class 1 and Wastewater Distribution Class 1

Utility Operator: Anthony Valeza – Wastewater Treatment Class 1

In 2023 the Rm of Pipestone was found to be meeting all criteria. This report is submitted to the Office of Drinking water for review before it is published for the public.

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Manager of Utilities  
RM of Pipestone  
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