



# CUMBERLAND

## Wastewater Upgrades Newsletter

An update on Cumberland's high performance lagoon upgrade

ISSUE 9  
MAY 2025

Spring has sprung in the Village of Cumberland! This is our ninth issue of our project newsletter for the Cumberland Wastewater Upgrades Project. Our goal is to keep you informed on progress on this important infrastructure upgrade. Work is underway and moving quickly – stay tuned for updates and the latest news moving forward.



To prepare for a change in the flow system at the wastewater treatment facility, one of the Village's wastewater lagoons has been drawn down. Here you see the small lagoon drained, with the new workshop (completed in fall 2024) in background.

## BUSY CONSTRUCTION SEASON NOW UNDERWAY

Spring and summer are prime time for construction work and work on the Village's Wastewater Upgrades Project is no exception. Crews are on site moving forward these critical upgrades that will ensure Cumberland is meeting required treatment standards for wastewater.

Since our last update in early 2025, the project team has been working to get ready for the installation of treatment equipment. That includes steps like:

- Construction of concrete pads and erecting two tents that will house the treatment infrastructure.
- Draining the smaller of the two lagoons to allow for the widening of the berm between them.
- Installation of conduit and water lines.

It's expected that treatment equipment will begin to be installed in the fall, with commissioning of the facility in late 2025-early 2026. Phase 1 of the work - the work critical to meeting treatment standards - will be complete in the first quarter of 2026.

"This project has overcome some significant hurdles and it's great to see the construction stage rolling. These are the kinds of changes that most people will never see – but which will make sure some of our most important infrastructure continues to operate," said Jason Wallace, Manager of Municipal Projects for the Village.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The upgrade work to Cumberland's Wastewater Treatment Facility will be completed in two phases.

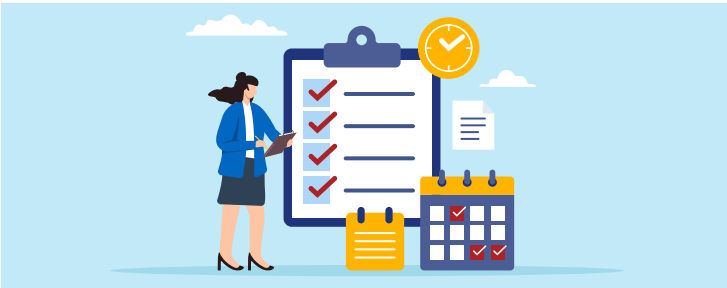
#### PHASE 1: Treatment Upgrades (Underway Now)

These upgrades are required to meet regulation, including: Improvements to screening, changing the flow path of the lagoons, adding extra aeration to the lagoons, adding nutrients for phosphorus removal, UV disinfection and ancillary works such as an operator's building, workshop, site security and more.

#### PHASE 2: Additional Improvements (2026)

These upgrades are aspirational and were identified as a preference during the community's planning process. They include wetland enhancement, seismic upgrades and improvements to the stormwater treatment wetland and Maple Lake Creek improvements.





## Final Step for Wastewater Planning Complete

Cumberland Council has approved the draft Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP) for submittal to the Province, completing an important long-term planning task in the Village.

The LWMP is a provincially regulated, three stage process for creating a long term plan for wastewater and stormwater management. The Village of Cumberland started their Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP) in 2016, and completed and submitted Stages 1 and 2 of the plan in 2018. That planning work led to the Wastewater Upgrades Project that is underway now. With the necessary treatment upgrades now in process, it was time to circle back and complete Stage 3, which began in mid 2024.

Stage 3 includes the final design of the treatment system and maps out additional components of wastewater management like the long-term management of stormwater, financial planning, environmental monitoring and implementation plans. The Stage 3 process is now complete and on May 26 the Stage 3 Report was endorsed by Cumberland Council for submission to the BC Ministry of Environment and Parks.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the engagement process for the Stage 3 planning – in particular the members of the Advisory Committee, made up of community and council members – who helped guide the direction of the plan.

Read more about the history of the LWMP and watch for updates at [cumberland.ca/liquid-waste-management-plan](http://cumberland.ca/liquid-waste-management-plan)



### Tent Set Up

Two tents on site will serve to provide cover for the wastewater treatment infrastructure, including UV disinfection, which will treat wastewater after it's collected in the lagoons, and before it's released to the environment.



## What to Expect During Summer Construction

As the weather warms up and more people are outside, some of the activity at the wastewater treatment facility may be more noticeable. Neighbours and others in the area are advised to expect:

- ▶ Increased noise at site, including vehicle reversing sound signals required to keep workers safe.
- ▶ Additional large vehicle traffic entering and exiting the site off of Ulverston Road.
- ▶ Periods of increased odour during construction stages that impact the flow of the current wastewater system.

Work will occur generally between regular working hours, Monday-Friday. Watch the project webpage or updates from the Village should additional work be required.



### Frequently Asked Questions



## What is the Wastewater Upgrades Project?

The Village of Cumberland is upgrading its wastewater treatment system to meet provincial standards, as well as fulfill environmental goals to remove man-made toxins, restore degraded ecosystems and release safe water into Maple Lake Creek and the Trent River, which flows into Baynes Sound.

For more information about the project, visit [cumberland.ca/wastewaterupgrades](http://cumberland.ca/wastewaterupgrades)

## STAY IN TOUCH

This update is issued by the Village of Cumberland to keep the community informed about the Cumberland Wastewater Upgrade Project.

To stay updated about the project's progress:

 [Cumberland.ca/wastewaterupgrades](http://Cumberland.ca/wastewaterupgrades)

 [wwt-upgrades@cumberland.ca](mailto:wwt-upgrades@cumberland.ca)

