



*Rochester Committee  
for Scientific Information  
Rochester, NY*

*RCSI Bulletin 17  
Coliform Counts on Slater Creek and Greece's Latta Road Sewage Treatment Plant*

*By: David J. Wilson  
August 1966*

#17(w)

## COLIFORM COUNTS ON SLATER CREEK AND GREECE'S LATTA ROAD SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

Slater Creek is a small stream which runs into Lake Ontario a short distance to the west of Ontario Beach. It receives effluent from the Town of Greece's Latta Road sewage treatment plant, and enters Lake Ontario about 5000 feet from the intake of the Monroe County Water Authority's old plant, which is used occasionally.

The following coliform counts were taken:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Coliforms/100ml of water</u>
July 12	Slater Creek, corner of Kirkwood & Ling Roads	3.3 million
"	Mouth of Slater Creek and Little Pond, north of RC&E plant	90,000
August 18	Latta Road Treatment Plant outfall	19 million
"	Mouth of Slater Creek and Little Pond	520,000

Comments: These results demonstrate massive contamination of Slater Creek by undisinfected sewage, and the discharge of this material into Lake Ontario, which bears a state classification of "A". The stream is so overloaded that it is incapable of adequate self-cleansing. We note the proximity of the mouth of the creek to the water intake of a Monroe County Water Authority plant and to Ontario Beach. The stream is not posted with warnings in any way, and swimming children were noted at the creek mouth on August 18. A children's playground is adjacent to the creek at the corner of Kirkwood and Ling Roads. Very large sludge banks occur in the stream, and a foul odor is noted even at the mouth of the stream, where the stream water has been greatly diluted by water from the RC&E plant. A residual free chlorine test performed on the Latta Road plant effluent on August 18 was negative, consistent with the extremely high coliform count observed. Thick deposits of toilet paper and condoms were observed on the screens used to control the large quantities of foam discharged by this plant.

In reply to our inquiry, we received a letter from George Badgerow, Town of Greece Supervisor on August 12, stating that additional chlorination facilities are in the planning stage and that "... interim measures have been taken to introduce additional chlorine for more effective disinfection of the sewage...." The results we obtained on August 18 indicate that, if this sewage is being chlorinated, it is not being disinfected.

Summary: Slater Creek from the Latta Road plant to the creek mouth at Lake Ontario is massively polluted with undisinfected sewage.

David J. Wilson

August 1966