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Control of Bacterial Pollution of Slater and Round Pond Creeks*

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CONTROL OF BACTERIAL POLLUTION OF SLATER AND ROUND POND CREEKS

Slater and Round Pond Creeks flow north through the Town of Greece, discharging into Lake Ontario one and two miles (respectively) west of Ontario Beach. Previous studies by the committee established that last summer Slater Creek was massively polluted with undisinfected sewage from Greece's Latta Road Sewage Treatment Plant (STP); and that Ontario Beach frequently suffers sewage pollution, as indicated by extremely high counts of coliform organisms in beach water. The prevailing winds and currents are such as to normally carry water from west to east. Round Pond Creek receives effluent from the Town of Greece's Island Cottage STP. We therefore carried out coliform counts on these two streams as part of our program to monitor the quality of beach waters this season. The following results were obtained.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Coliforms per 100 ml</u>
Mouth of Slater Creek	11 Mar.	130
	12 Mar.	190
	18 Mar.	0
Round Pond Creek, upstream from Greece's Island Cottage STP	12 Mar.	16,000
		3,100
Round Pond Creek, downstream from Greece's Island Cottage STP	12 Mar.	13,000
	18 Mar.	1,500

The high counts above, as well as downstream from, the Island Cottage STP, indicate that these bacteria are not coming from this plant. The highest counts were obtained on 12 March, on which day there was quite a lot of spring run-off, which may have included water draining from farm feed lots.

Our results indicate that at the present time Greece's Latta Road and Island Cottage Sewage Treatment Plants are discharging disinfected effluent into Slater and Round Pond Creeks and thence to Lake Ontario.

We note that odors and the presence of sludge banks in Slater Creek downstream from the Latta Road STP indicate that the Creek's capacity to assimilate organic waste has been greatly exceeded. We intend to carry out dissolved oxygen measurements and chemical oxygen demand analyses on Slater Creek during the coming summer.

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