

BROADACRES VILLAGE RESIDENTS COMMITTEE



COMMUNIQUÉ - 139

DANGEROUS SEWAGE CONTAMINATION IN BOTTOM POND

10 June, 2019

Dear fellow residents,

I'm sure you're aware that raw sewage spilled into the bottom pond. The spill started on 24 May. After repeated calls to Jhb. Water, the major spill was stopped on 31 May. Fortunately the spill was spotted shortly after it started and the transfer pump stopped. Consequently very little of the sewerage contaminated water was transferred into the top pond.

Although the main flow of sewage has been stopped, a trickle continues and we continue monitoring and reporting this to Jhb. Water

On 29 May samples were drawn from both ponds and sent for analysis. The results were received on 06 June.

*The analysis for the bottom pond was **very bad**, the E-Coli (the really dangerous pathogen) count being greater than 100 000 CFU/100ml. The warning that came with that result was stark: **'Please keep all animals and/or humans away from the pond or the stream that flows through the estate as they can get extremely sick should they play in this water or accidentally drink any of it.'***

The analysis for the top pond was much better, with E-Coli measuring 100 CFU/100 ml. The E-Coli count for drinking water must be less than 1 CFU/100, while a count of up to 100 CFU/100ml is acceptable for water in a system such as ours.

*We have received a recommendation from Puresan, a supplier of water treatment chemicals, for a product that will neutralize the E-Coli. That product will be purchased and applied **TODAY!** We will continue analyzing the water on a weekly basis until it is safe once more.*

In the meantime please ensure that any grandchildren who come visiting are kept well away from the bottom pond and the stream!

*Hennie du Preez,
Chairman of ResCom.*