

Introduction to GARP discussion.

Today we need to hear your questions and feedback on the choice, either to chlorinate this water system, or to have a permanent advisory notice. These options were directed by the Drinking Water Officer.

The trustees are required to advise you about the risks. And you will be expected to advise family and visitors to your Savary Shores home.

This is a brief description of the risks.

Viruses that can multiply in the gastrointestinal tract of humans or animals are known as “enteric viruses.”

A human infected with an enteric virus could pass the virus into their septic system, and from the septic system, the virus could travel through existing underground pathways to Savary Shores wellheads.

We already know there are underground pathways from septic systems to the wellheads, because the nitrates found in Savary Shores water have arrived by underground pathways.

Once in the well water, the virus will be distributed in the drinking water, and more people could become infected.

Please note there is no report of viruses or illness at this time.

To get a fuller picture of the risks, it is recommended that you read about the health effects in Health Canada’s publication *Enteric Viruses in Drinking Water*, 2017, posted to the SSID website.

The seriousness of the health effects from a viral infection will depend on the age and health of the individual affected. In healthy individuals, the symptoms might be highly unpleasant gastrointestinal illness, without being life threatening.

In vulnerable groups, such as infants, young children, immuno-compromised, and the elderly, the illness can be more serious, including some chronic diseases, and possibly death.

Viruses of concern include noroviruses, hepatitis A virus, hepatitis E virus, rotaviruses and enteroviruses. Symptoms can include nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, fever, malaise, anorexia, abdominal pain, joint pain, sore throat, rash, upper respiratory tract,

jaundice, liver damage, and a list of serious complications identified in the Health Canada guide.

Some Pros and Cons of each are as presented last year, as shown on the handout.

Our discussion today will help us create a survey to go out to all the Savary Shores property owners, to help get enough input to make a decision that this community can accept.