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For Immediate Release: Thursday, January 5, 2023

Wastewater Discharge in Owasco River

On Thursday, January 5, 2023, the Cayuga County Health Department was notified by NY-Alert, New York State's emergency notification system that, due to a valve failure, partially treated wastewater with disinfection was discharged into the Owasco River.

According to the NY-Alert System, the discharge occurred at 35 Bradley St. at 12:30pm and lasted for approximately 90 minutes releasing 281,250 gallons. To sign up for alerts, please visit New York State's NY - Alert system at <https://alert.ny.gov>.

The Owasco River water is not regulated by the Cayuga County Health Department and the area of the discharge should be avoided. If persons choose to recreate in an unregulated body of water, they should avoid getting water in their mouth, wash their hands afterwards, and shower once they return home.

These permitted discharges do NOT affect the public drinking water source (Owasco Lake) as the discharge is downstream and flows north.

For more information, please call the Cayuga County Health Department at 315-253-1560.
