

GLWA Statement: Cyclospora Outbreak

July 13, 2026

Public health officials in Michigan continue to investigate the source of the cyclospora parasitic outbreak, identified in recent gastrointestinal illness infections in the Midwest.

There is no current evidence indicating that the drinking water supplied by the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) is the source or contributes to the outbreak. GLWA's multi-layered [water treatment process](#) is specifically designed to remove this type of contaminant from the drinking water it provides to its member communities.

Health departments routinely recommend using clean, running water, like that provided by GLWA, to thoroughly wash fresh fruits and vegetables as an important food safety practice to help reduce the risk of exposure to contaminants.

GLWA's wastewater treatment process utilizes chlorine for wastewater disinfection prior to its discharge into receiving water bodies. Cyclospora is not a bacteria that is regulated under or tested for within GLWA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit.

While GLWA has not conducted any testing of its wastewater effluent to the receiving water bodies at this time, the Authority's Research and Innovation Group is working with our academic partners to determine if there is any appropriate testing that could detect cyclospora in the WRRF's effluent water.

GLWA remains committed to providing safe, high-quality drinking water and will continue coordinating with public health and local officials as appropriate. We encourage residents to follow guidance from their local health department and healthcare providers regarding food safety and illness prevention.