



June 25, 2006

**Mr. Dan Blaisdell, P.E.  
Assistant Chief, Engineering Branch  
Construction Grants and Loans Section  
North Carolina Division of Water Quality  
1633 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1633**

**Ms. Cyndi Karoly  
North Carolina Division of Water Quality  
1650 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1650**

**Mr. Monte Matthews  
Raleigh Regulatory Field Office  
6508 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 120  
Raleigh, NC 2615**

**Dear Messrs. Blaisdell & Matthews,  
Ms. Karoly:**

**This letter is an update to my June 20, 2006 letter. Attachment 1, Recent Sewage Spills In The Triangle, had to be updated because Cary continues to have ongoing raw sewage spills. Their latest raw sewage spill began sometime Friday, June 23, and according to the June 25, 2006 edition of the News and Observer, the spill is ongoing, and is dumping 200,000 gallons of raw sewage an hour into Swift Creek, Lake Wheeler, and Lake Benson.**

**As I stated in my earlier letter, based on Cary's track record of how they manage sewage plants and transmission lines, they should not be allowed to build and manage a sewage plant in New Hill, or in any unincorporated area outside of their town limits.**

**Also, DENR and the Army Corps of Engineers should investigate Cary's incompetence and fine them for contaminating areas creeks and lakes.**

**I sincerely hope that Cary will have to bear the expense of cleaning up**

---

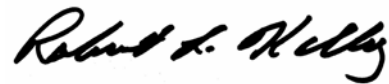
*Bob Kelly ❖ 3020 Olive Farm Road ❖ Apex, NC 27502*

**the sewage spill into Swift Creek, Lake Wheeler, and Lake Benson rather than the citizens of North Carolina who do not live in Cary.**

**As stated earlier, all of the residents of New Hill depend on wells for drinking water, and farm ponds to water livestock and irrigate our fields. What recourse will the residents of New Hill have when Cary has a sewage spill that contaminates our wells, farm ponds and fields.**

**For this reason alone, the EIS submitted by Cary on behalf of the Western Wake Partners should be rejected.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert S. Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" and "K".

**Attachments**

## Recent Sewage Spills In The Triangle

		Gallons Spilled			Gallons Spilled
Date			Date		
<b>Cary</b>	Began: June 23, 2006 & is Ongoing	200,000 per hour	<b>Apex</b>	June 1, 2005	25,000
	June 17, 2006	2,713		April 23, 2003	2500
	June 16, 2006	7,200		February 4, 2003	150
	June 15, 2006	792,000			
	June 13, 2006	6,300			
	April 29, 2006	18 - 36,000	<b>Carrboro</b>	July 26, 2000	2 - 3 million
	April 21, 2006	1900			
	April 6, 2006	> 1,000			
	February 4, 2006	11,048	<b>Durham</b>	August 15, 1997	20,000
	January 28, 2006	> 1,000		July 30, 1997	30,000
	January 11, 2006	1,500		July 27, 1997	1.6 million
	January 8, 2006	> 1,000			
	November 12, 2005	2,235	<b>Garner</b>	August 22, 1997	500,000
	August 18, 2005	94,000			
	June 8, 2005	18,000	<b>Holly Springs</b>	March 6, 2000	7,350
	April 2005	40		March 8, 2003	4,500
	March 2005	1,056		November 5, 2002	1,500
	February 26, 2005	1,556		November 4, 2002	5,000
	December 2004	1,000			
	August 15, 2004	15,559	<b>Raleigh</b>	May 4, 2005	3 million
	July 13, 2004	1,372		September 3, 2004	67,200
	March 16, 2004	25,000		March 31, 2004	9,600
	March 1, 2004	15,978		September 16, 1999	1.2 million
	February 13, 2004	1,532		August 16, 1999	151,200
	January 14, 2004	2,311		June 24, 1999	200,000
	April 15, 2003	346		March 3, 1999	165,000
	May 13, 2003	6,040			
	May 2, 2003	600	<b>Zebulon</b>	September 15, 1999	126,000
	March 6, 2003	18,850		August 16, 1999	157,500
	March 5, 2003	297			
	February 22, 2003	1,500 - 1,800			
	February 17, 2003	1,626	<b>Sources:</b>	Draft EIS for Western Wake Regional Wastewater Management Facility	
	February 2, 2003	3,546		NBC 17	
	January 28, 2003	4,812		News 14 Carolina	
	January 26, 2003	3,546		The News & Observer	
	December 5, 2002	5,850		NC Division of Water Quality	
	November 29, 2002	420		Town of Cary Web Site:	
	October 15, 2002	1,000 - 2,500		<a href="http://www.townofcary.org/news/news2006/newsind.htm">www.townofcary.org/news/news2006/newsind.htm</a>	
	October 11, 2002	2,930			
	October 11, 2002	6,480			
	September 16, 2002	360			

# Massive sewage spill prompts closure of Lake Wheeler activities

The Associated Press

Authorities closed Lake Wheeler to recreational activities Saturday after untreated sewage from Cary began pouring into a tributary Friday night at a rate of 200,000 gallons per hour.

The spill began after utility workers shut down a pump near Swift Creek to reconnect a dislodged pipe, Cary officials said. They hoped to stop the spill on Saturday.

Raleigh officials closed the lake to swimming, fishing and boating until they can determine the water is safe.

Lake Wheeler Park remained open Saturday.

---

HASH(0xa5f5c40)

All rights reserved. This copyrighted material may not be published, broadcast or redistributed in any manner.

© Copyright 2006, The News & Observer Publishing Company

## Story Tools

 [Printer Friendly](#)

 [Email to a Friend](#)

 [Enlarge Font](#)

 [Decrease Font](#)

## More NC News Wire

- [Former Carrboro fire chief found dead in Cary hotel](#)
- [High Point 21-year-old named Miss N.C.](#)
- [5-year-old boy from Greensboro drowns at Jordan Lake](#)
- [High Point 21-year-old named Miss N.C.](#)
- [County property tax increases unusual for election year](#)
- [NASCAR driver's mother driven to help lonely soldiers](#)

## Ad Links [Buy a link »](#)

### Stay Slim in Summer

Free 7 day Trial with no obligation! Shed 10 pounds in 2 weeks.

[www.hoodiamiraclediet.com](http://www.hoodiamiraclediet.com)

### JALAPENO STEAK BUTTER

"Austin TX Style" PERFECT STEAK SEASONING  
Chef's Favorite -\$6/ Bottle

[www.danandbucks.com](http://www.danandbucks.com)

### Affordable Life Insurance

SBLI offers low-cost life insurance. Request more info, hassle free.

[www.sbli.com](http://www.sbli.com)

A subsidiary of The McClatchy Company 

## Cary sewage spill closes lakes

Workers try to stop the untreated flow into Swift Creek after a pipe burst Friday

BY DAVID BRACKEN, STAFF WRITER, Staff Writer

Cary officials said today that heavy rains and ongoing construction at a pumping station were to blame for a spill that has dumped millions of gallons of untreated sewage into Swift Creek.

### Story Tools

 [Printer Friendly](#)

 [Email to a Friend](#)

 [Enlarge Font](#)

 [Decrease Font](#)

### More Home

- [Canes, Laviolette agree to five-year deal](#)
- [Former Carrboro fire chief found dead](#)
- [Cary sewage spill closes lakes](#)
- [Land rush, runoff threaten inner coast's water, shellfish](#)

The spill has prompted Raleigh officials on Saturday to close Lake Wheeler and Lake Benson to boating, swimming and fishing while bacteria tests were conducted on the water. Donna Jackson, Raleigh's assistant public utilities director, said Sunday she expects to receive those test results Monday.

Rob Bonne, Cary's Utility Director, said a pipe dislodged Friday evening about 7:30 p.m. after an excavation site at its Swift Creek pumping station caved in. The broken pipe forced officials to shut down the station, which handles about 5 million gallons of waste on an average day.


Cary officials estimate as much as 3 million gallons of untreated waste may have entered Swift Creek over the next 36 hours as engineers struggled to fix the problem.

By 11 a.m. today, engineers had a temporary system in place to prevent sewage from reaching Swift Creek. They began rerouting the sewage from man holes located upstream from the pumping station.

The sewage was being diverted to 6,500 gallon tanker trucks, which are hauling it downstream to where it can re-enter the sewer system and flow to the South Cary sewage treatment plant.

The hauling operation caused the closure of Holly Springs Road between Lilly Atkins Road and High Ridge Drive until further notice. Holly Springs Road also is closed to thru traffic from Cary Parkway to Penny Road.

**All rights reserved. This copyrighted material may not be published, broadcast or redistributed in any manner.**

© Copyright 2006, The News & Observer Publishing Company  
A subsidiary of [The McClatchy Company](#) 

[www.news14.com](http://www.news14.com)

## Massive sewage spill closes Lake Wheeler

Updated: 6/25/2006 1:28:53 PM

By: Ashley Smith



The Banfalby family catches a fish at Simkins Pond. They fished there since Lake Wheeler was off limits.

RALEIGH -- The city of Raleigh is testing the waters of Lake Wheeler this weekend. Friday, a sewage spill dumped contaminated water into Swift Creek, which feeds into Lake Wheeler. Now the lake is closed for water activities until those tests come back.

That means no fishing on Lake Wheeler this weekend for the Banfalby family. Normally, they would take a boat out on the lake but the sewage spill forced them to change their plans and head to nearby Simkins Pond instead.

"We've been advised that this pond here hasn't been affected by that, so that's why we moved from over there. We were there originally there then came over here for the kids to fish," said John Banfalby.

Meanwhile Raleigh officials are collecting water samples to see just how contaminated Lake Wheeler is.

'We assembled a team of samplers and laboratory folks to come out here and start sampling the lake to see what the impact would be on the lake," said T.J. Lynch, the superintendent of the Raleigh Wastewater Treatment Center.

Each day the testers will come out to check for low oxygen levels that could be harmful to fish and other water life. They're also checking for e-coli, bacteria that is harmful to humans.

As people wait for the lake to open, water treatment specialists say they're optimistic about the results. That's because so far they haven't seen any dead fish and the large body of water is actually helping to dilute some of that sewage.



As for the Banfalbys, they say they are glad the testers are working quickly, and they hope they can get back to fishing at their usual spot sometime soon.

“Yeah, that way we can come out. We'll see where it goes next weekend,” said Banfalby.

He added that he really hoping the lake will reopen just in time for the Fourth of July weekend.

Testers said it's too early to tell when the lake will reopen but plan to be back out there to monitor Lake Wheeler Monday.

Copyright © 2006 TWEAN d.b.a. News 14 Carolina

# WRAL.com

## Sewer Overflow At Cary Pump Station Closes Raleigh Lake

POSTED: 11:04 am EDT June 24, 2006  
UPDATED: 12:20 pm EDT June 25, 2006

### Related To Story



A sewage overflow at a Cary pump station prompted park officials to close Lake Wheeler in Raleigh.

**CARY, N.C.** -- A sewage overflow in Cary shut down a popular Raleigh lake over the weekend as crews worked to fix the spill and test the lake for contamination.

Rain from Friday's thunderstorms caused a soil embankment to collapse at the Swift Creek Regional Pump Station on Holly Springs Road, officials said.

---

● **Video:** [Sewer Overflow At Cary Pump Station Closes Raleigh Lake](#)

---

Crews worked Friday night and Saturday to stop the spill, which began at about 7:30 p.m. and released nearly 5 million gallons of untreated sewage into Swift Creek.

To repair the pipe, crews had to shut down the pump station, at which point the sewage normally moving through the station began going into Swift Creek.

Town spokeswoman Susan Moran said on Sunday that the problem was not yet fixed, but that crews had established a pumping-and-hauling operation on Saturday to help alleviate the situation.

Once the valve is repaired, crews would be able to restart the pump station, causing the ongoing spill to end.

"We have been working around the clock to make this repair," said the Utilities Director Rob Bonne. "Fortunately, Swift Creek remains swollen from the recent heavy rains, which is helping to mitigate the spill's impacts."

Authorities said no fish kill has been observed, but the city of Raleigh closed public access to Lake Wheeler, in which the creek drains, for fishing, canoeing, sailing and other water activities. Lake Benson in Garner was also shut down as a precaution.

"Our main focus is the safety of our patrons," said Raleigh Parks and Recreation Supervisor Richard Costello. "We're making sure that there are no risks at all."

The lake was expected to remain closed until water-testing was complete and pending the tests' results. Initial test results were expected back on Sunday, but park officials could not say on Saturday when they thought the lake would reopen. Lake Wheeler Park, however, is open to the public.

Friday's spill was the latest in a series of sewage spills in Cary. From June 15 to June 16, nearly 800,000 gallons of lake water and untreated waste spilled into Crabtree Creek as a result of the Tropical Storm Alberto's remnants.

On June 17, 2,700 gallons of untreated waste spilled into a tributary of Middle Creek as a result of debris blocking the sewer system.

Reporter: [Dan Bowens](#)

Photographer: [Tom Normanly](#)

Web Editor: [Kelly Gardner](#)

*Copyright 2006 by [WRAL.com](#). All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.*