



Why did this happen?

The cause of the break is still being investigated. Significant rainfall events can place additional stress on underground infrastructure and may contribute to ground movement or instability, but it is too early to determine whether those conditions contributed to this incident.

ARROW's immediate focus is repairing the damaged pipeline, maintaining wastewater service, and completing cleanup and restoration activities. Once the repairs are complete, ARROW will investigate the cause of the break, assess any environmental impacts, and identify any lessons learned or actions that may help reduce the risk of similar incidents in the future.

What environmental monitoring and testing is being conducted?

ARROW Utilities is conducting ongoing environmental monitoring and water quality testing through its accredited laboratory and in partnership with Spencer Environmental. Sampling and environmental assessments are being completed to help evaluate conditions, support cleanup efforts, and inform any necessary restoration activities. Monitoring will continue throughout the response and recovery process.

Have a question these FAQs didn't answer?

Please send an email to info@arrowutilities.ca

June 1, 2026

What happened?

A wastewater pipeline sustained damage near Sir Winston Churchill Avenue and Kingswood Drive during the heavy rainfall event on June 1.

What is a wastewater pipeline?

It is a pipe that carries wastewater from homes and businesses through the regional wastewater system to be treated.

Was wastewater released?

Yes. The damaged pipe caused wastewater to overflow onto a small section of the Red Willow Trail system towards the river.

Are residents safe?

Yes. There is no indication of a broader risk to residents; as with any wastewater release, residents should avoid contact with the affected water.

Is the area safe?

Residents are asked to avoid the affected area and follow all posted detour signs while crews complete repairs.

What is ARROW doing to fix the problem?

Crews responded immediately and are working to divert to the adjacent forcemains while repairs are completed.

Will wastewater service be affected?

At this time, no service interruptions are expected.

**Has the incident been reported?**

Yes. ARROW is working with the City of St Albert and Alberta Environment and Protected Areas as part of the response.

Did wastewater reach a river or waterbody?

Yes. Wastewater from the pipeline break entered the nearby Sturgeon River. This occurred during a significant rainfall event, resulting in elevated river flows and substantial dilution. ARROW is working closely with Alberta Environment & Protected Areas to assess the situation and understand potential environmental impacts.

How long will repairs take?

Crews are currently assessing the damage and developing a repair plan. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

What caused the break?

The cause of the damage is still being investigated. Heavy rainfall events can be hard on underground infrastructure and may lead to ground movement, erosion, or sinkholes that can damage buried pipes. While these conditions are sometimes seen during significant rainfall events, the cause of this break has not yet been confirmed.

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