

The background features a vibrant blue color palette. On the right side, there is a dynamic splash of water, with a thick, curved stream of water falling downwards. The area to the right of the splash is filled with numerous water droplets of various sizes, some showing highlights and reflections, giving a sense of freshness and movement. The overall composition is clean and modern, with a focus on water-related imagery.

Erin Spring Summary

Blue Triton Brands
Erin Spring Site

Erin Overview

Blue Triton Brands (formerly Nestlé Waters Canada) has been a proud community partner, environmental steward, and employer in Wellington County for over 20 year. Water supply sustainability is as critical to Blue Triton as it is to the community.

Blue Triton bottles water from the Erin Spring Site at the Aberfoyle facility in Puslinch, near the City of Guelph, in Southern Ontario. The Erin Spring Site is located in the Township of Erin in Wellington County. Pumping for commercial purposes from an on-site well, referred to as TW1-88, began in 2000 (see Figure 1 for the well location). The water is piped to a nearby stainless steel water storage silo that is used for short-term storage where highway tanker trucks are filled. The water taking is governed by a Permit to Take Water (PTTW) issued by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), which allows Blue Triton to withdraw water at an instantaneous rate of up to 773 L/min for a total of 1,113,000 L/day.



Figure 1. Blue Triton Erin Spring Property

Blue Triton (formerly Nestlé) has conducted testing and studies over the years to ensure that their operations do not diminish the quality and availability of water for other users or the environment. Permit conditions require Blue Triton to monitor the natural and pumping-related variations in groundwater and surface water levels. Additionally, Blue Triton evaluates wetland vegetation, species diversity, and stream flow to ensure that the groundwater withdrawal does not affect the habitat of water-dependent ecology.

Blue Triton is dedicated to managing the water source for long-term sustainability because their business depends on it and because it is the right thing to do. There have been no adverse impacts on the aquifer or ecosystems resulting from over 20 years of operations at the Erin site.

Supply Well TW1-88

An aquifer is a highly permeable rock or sand formation that stores and transmits significant quantities of water. An aquitard is an impermeable rock or clay formation that impedes the movement of groundwater.

In the Erin Spring area, groundwater for water supplies is typically derived from a surficial sand and gravel aquifer or a dolostone bedrock aquifer. The surficial overburden aquifer and the upper bedrock aquifer (Guelph Formation) supply water to surrounding residences. Blue Triton's well TW1-88 withdraws water from the upper bedrock aquifer. Since its original construction, the well has been enlarged and filled with cement in the bottom portion of the hole to improve water quality. The current well configuration consists of an 8" diameter stainless steel casing set through the overburden and 2.3 m into the bedrock. Water enters the well from the upper bedrock aquifer (open portion of hole) between 21.8 and 39.0 metres below ground. The upper bedrock and surficial sand and gravel aquifers are separated by a till aquitard, which resists the flow of water between the two aquifers.

TW1-88 Permit

Blue Triton is permitted to take water from TW1-88 at a rate of up to 773 L/min, or a maximum of 1,113,000 L/day. Blue Triton does not withdraw this full amount of water since water is only withdrawn when it is needed for bottling operations. The current permit expires on November 15, 2026.

Site Monitoring

Independent scientists are contracted by Blue Triton to monitor the groundwater system, surface water features, wetlands, and natural environment at the Erin site. Water extraction rates from TW1-88 are recorded by Blue Triton and reported to the MECP. Monitoring efforts ensure that Blue Triton's operations do not adversely affect the groundwater, surface water, and natural environments.

The groundwater and surface water monitoring program consists of monitoring at 37 points within 1.3 km of TW1-88 as follows:

- TW1-88 (production well);
- 8 monitoring well nests with two wells each (a total of 16 wells) that are completed at various levels in the bedrock and the overburden;
- 5 surface water stations to measure stream and pond levels;
- 7 mini-piezometer nests (a total of 14 piezometers) to measure shallow groundwater levels; and
- 1 private well.

The ecological monitoring consists of:

- Aquatic monitoring;
- Terrestrial monitoring; and
- Water temperature monitoring.

Summary

Blue Triton takes its environmental stewardship responsibilities seriously and is committed to sustainable management of natural resources. Blue Triton's Erin water withdrawal activity has not resulted in adverse impacts to groundwater, surface water, wetlands, or other natural resources.