

For Immediate Release
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HERNDER FARMS LIMITED FINED \$6,000 FOR ONTARIO WATER RESOURCES ACT VIOLATION

ST. CATHARINES—Hernder Farms Limited has been fined \$6,000, plus a victim fine surcharge, after pleading guilty to one count of failing to comply with a condition of its Certificate of Approval (C of A) for an industrial sewage works.

Hernder Farms Limited operates as a winery, retail store and banquet hall under the business name Hernder Estate Wines, on Eighth Avenue in St. Catharines, Ontario.

The Court heard that on June 17, 2003, Hernder Farms Limited applied to the Niagara Escarpment Commission for a development permit, requesting permission to construct a sewage lagoon to treat waste water from its wine making process.

On September 28, 2004 Hernder Farms was issued a C of A for an industrial sewage works, which approved the installation and operation of two sewage lagoons that were to be rectangular and operated in series.

On December 16, 2004 a ministry inspection of Hernder Farms' sewage works revealed that a single cell triangular lagoon had been installed and was in use.

Following an investigation conducted by the ministry's Investigations and Enforcement Branch, charges were laid.

Hernder Farms Limited pleaded guilty to one count of failing to comply with a condition of its C of A for an industrial sewage works, contrary to section 170(3) of the *Ontario Water Resources Act*. The company was fined \$6,000 for the offence.

Justice of the Peace Carolyn Straughan sentenced the defendant on June 16, 2006 in the Ontario Court of Justice in St. Catharines.

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