

**FOR RELEASE:** August 26, 2010

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## **One Algal Bloom Advisory Downgraded, One Added; Sampling Continues**

Due to the presence of algal toxins found within the water of a number of inland lakes across Ohio and Lake Erie, Ohio EPA, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and Ohio Department of Health (ODH) are releasing a comprehensive list of updated sampling results for algal toxins including microcystin, anatoxin-a, cylindrospermopsin and saxitoxin. All state parks remain open.

### **DOWNGRADED**

#### **Grand Lake St. Marys**

The advisory for Grand Lake St. Marys has been downgraded to a toxin advisory, which means that people should avoid direct contact with the lake, such as swimming or waterskiing. Samples taken Monday at West Beach, East Beach and Camp Beach continued to measure falling levels of algal toxins. Microcystin levels range from 2.6 to 4.5 ppb, with the highest at Camp Beach. Anatoxin was measured at 0.3 ppb at West Beach and 0.2 ppb at both East and Camp beaches. Saxitoxin and cylindrospermopsin were not detected. Microcystin was 6.1 ppb at the Celina drinking water plant intake, but no toxins have been detected in the city's treated drinking water.

### **ADDED**

#### **Stonelick State Park:**

An algal bloom was reported today at the lake. Samples have been taken and a cautionary advisory to avoid contact with the surface scum is being posted.

### **REMAINING**

#### **Wingfoot Lake State Park:**

Additional analysis of four water samples collected around Wingfoot Lake's boat house showed microcystin levels ranged from 3.6 parts per billion (ppb) to greater than 100 ppb. Due to the continued elevated levels of microcystin in the water and past detections of trace amounts of saxitoxin and anatoxin-a, a toxin advisory continues for Wingfoot Lake. Residents should avoid contact with any algae and direct contact with the water until further notice.

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Lake Advisories  
August 26, 2010  
2-2-2-2-2

### **Scioto Trail State Park:**

An algal bloom has been reported at Stewart Lake (Ross County\*). Samples have been taken and a cautionary bloom advisory has been posted, though there is not a swimming beach at this lake. BSA Environmental Inc. has identified the organism found in the lake as *Planktothrix*, a cyanobacteria that can produce toxins. Microcystin was detected at 1.4 ppb in the lake. Additional samples were taken and the results will be reported when they become available.

\* Yesterday's news release incorrectly stated that Stewart Lake was in Scioto County.

### **Lake Alma State Park:**

BSA Environmental Services, Inc. has identified the organism found in Lake Alma (Vinton County) as *Anabaena*, a cyanobacteria that can produce toxins. Trace amounts of microcystin were detected in the surface water on the lake (0.3 ppb) and a foot below the surface (0.2 ppb). Additional samples were taken and the results will be reported when they become available.

### **Burr Oak State Park:**

No microcystin was detected in the beach water sampled at Burr Oak Lake (Athens and Morgan counties). Additional samples were taken and the results will be reported when they become available.

### **Jackson Lake State Park:**

No cylindrospermopsin or saxitoxin was detected in the samples taken from Jackson Lake (Jackson County). Microcystin was not detected in a sample taken one foot below the surface of the beach water at lake, but a trace amount (0.2 ppb) of microcystin was detected on the surface of the beach water at the lake. Additional samples were taken and the results will be reported when they become available.

### **Delaware State Park:**

No cylindrospermopsin or saxitoxin was detected in the sample taken from an unnamed Delaware fishing pond (Delaware County) where an algal bloom was previously spotted. While no bloom was spotted at the state park beach, a sample of the lake water at the beach also was taken for these toxins as a precaution and the results came back non-detect. Additional samples were taken and the results will be reported when they become available.

### **Lake Erie Beaches:**

A bloom advisory sign continues to be posted at East Harbor State Park and toxin advisory signs continue to be posted at Maumee Bay State Park. In addition, ODH sampled for *E.coli* at several Lake Erie beaches and recently took additional samples to determine if algal toxins from the Lake Erie bloom are present at the beaches at Catawba State Park, Port Clinton city beach and Camp Perry beach. Each beach had low levels of microcystin present. The highest was 5.5 parts per billion (ppb) at Catawba. Levels were 3.4 ppb at Port Clinton beach and 2.1 ppb at Camp Perry. There were no detections of saxitoxin or cylindrospermopsin at any of the beaches. No advisories are currently posted at these beaches.

**SUMMARY OF ADVISORIES:**

**No Contact Advisory:** Avoid any and all contact with and ingestion of the lake water. This includes launching watercraft on the lakes.

Blue Rock State Park

**Toxin Advisory:** Avoid contact with any algae and direct contact with water.

Grand Lake St. Marys

Burr Oak State Park

East Branch Reservoir

LaDue Reservoir

Maumee Bay State Park (Lake Erie bloom)

Wingfoot State Park

**Bloom Advisory:** Cautionary advisory to avoid contact with any algae.

Alum Creek (park office pond)

Deer Creek State Park

Delaware State Park (unnamed pond)

East Harbor State Park (Lake Erie bloom)

Jackson Lake

Lake Alma State Park

Mount Gilead State Park

Shawnee State Park (golf course pond)

Stonelick State Park

More information about what each advisory means can be found on ODNR's website at:  
[ohiodnr.com/tabid/22957/Default.aspx](http://ohiodnr.com/tabid/22957/Default.aspx).

Because toxin levels can fluctuate, the State will continue sampling from the lakes. Advisories will remain in effect until there have been two consecutive weeks of non-detection for anatoxin-a, saxitoxin and cylindrospermopsin and two consecutive weeks of microcystin below 20 ppb (set by the World Health Organization (WHO) as the upper end of the moderate-risk range for contact with microcystin). There are no WHO standards for the other toxins.

Additional information and data on Harmful Algal Blooms is online at:

Ohio EPA [www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/HAB.aspx](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/HAB.aspx)

ODH [www.odh.ohio.gov/features/odhfeatures/algalblooms.aspx](http://www.odh.ohio.gov/features/odhfeatures/algalblooms.aspx)