

**FOR RELEASE:** October 1, 2010

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### **New Algal Toxin Sampling Data: Advisories Continue**

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.

NOTE: This is the last daily algal toxin update that Ohio EPA, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and Ohio Department of Health (ODH) will be releasing this year. Beginning next week, the State will issue a weekly release on Friday with the latest sampling data, continuing through the end of the month. Additional news releases will be issued as needed to announce changes in advisory levels or other time sensitive information.

### **REMAINING**

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

Microcystin levels at Grand Lake St. Marys (Auglaize and Mercer counties) continue to be low. Samples taken this week at Campground, West and East beaches had levels ranging from 6.2 to 7.5 ppb, with West Beach the highest. Saxitoxin and cylindrospermopsin were not detected. The toxin advisory remains in place. The state is awaiting the latest results for anatoxin-a. Also, microcystin levels at the Celina drinking water intake this week were 2.8 and 3.4 ppb. No toxins have ever been detected in Celina's treated drinking water.

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

Wingfoot Lake remains under a toxin advisory. Results of the September 27 sampling showed microcystin ranged from 2.9 ppb to 48.2 ppb. Results for the other algal toxins are not yet available.

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

Microcystin was non-detect in samples taken on September 27 from Lake Alma (Vinton County). No changes have been reported in the water quality conditions at the drinking water plant. The lake remains under a toxin advisory.

### **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.

**Toxin Advisory:** Avoid contact with any algae and direct contact with water.  
Grand Lake St. Marys  
LaDue Reservoir  
East Branch Reservoir

Lake Alma State Park  
Maumee Bay State Park (Lake Erie bloom)  
Wingfoot Lake State Park

**Bloom Advisory:** Cautionary advisory to avoid contact with any algae.  
East Harbor State Park (Lake Erie bloom)

The information in this news release is current as of 1 p.m. today. 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)

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**[www.epa.ohio.gov](http://www.epa.ohio.gov)**