

FOR RELEASE: September 1, 2010

CONTACT: Heidi Hetzel-Evans, ODNR, (614) 265-6860
Public Interest Center, Ohio EPA, (614) 644-2160
Jen House, ODH, (614) 644-8562

Correction to Yesterday's News Release -- One Algal Toxin Advisory Upgraded; Other Water Advisories Remain Unchanged

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.

In an Aug. 30 news release, anatoxin levels at LaDue and East Branch Reservoirs were mistakenly flipped. This caused the Aug. 31 news release to announce the wrong reservoir to be upgraded. Correction: LaDue Reservoir has been upgraded to a no contact advisory, not East Branch Reservoir. This correction was sent to the media late yesterday.

UPGRADED

LaDue Reservoir:

Based on all the toxin levels at LaDue Reservoir, ODH, Ohio EPA, and ODNR are moving the lake to a no contact advisory. This means that people should avoid any and all contact with and ingestion of the lake water. This includes launching watercraft on the lake. Anatoxin-a levels ranged from 1.2-1.8 ppb. Earlier results announced August 20 also showed levels of microcystin ranging from 0.68-43 ppb and saxitoxin at 0.147-0.261 ppb.

REMAINING:

East Branch Reservoir:

East Branch will remain at the toxin advisory level. The anatoxin-a levels ranged from 0.4-0.6 ppb. Earlier results announced August 20 also showed levels of microcystin ranging from 0.16 to 3.6 ppb and saxitoxin at 0.081 ppb.

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
LaDue Reservoir

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

Burr Oak State Park
Deer Creek State Park
Grand Lake St. Marys

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.

Alum Creek State Park (park office pond)
Delaware State Park (unnamed pond)
East Harbor State Park (Lake Erie bloom)
Jackson Lake State Park
Lake Hope State Park
Mount Gilead State Park
Shawnee State Park (golf course pond)
Scioto Trail State Park (Stewart Lake only)
Stonelick State Park

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.

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

ODH www.odh.ohio.gov/features/odhfeatures/algalblooms.aspx