

**FOR RELEASE:** September 3, 2010

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**Two Algal Toxin Advisories Removed, One Downgraded;  
Other 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.

**REMOVED:**

**Lake Hope and Jackson Lake:**

The advisories at Lake Hope and Jackson Lake State Parks are being removed following a second consecutive week of toxin-free sample results. The most recent samples, collected on August 30, did not contain microcystin, cylindrospermopsin, saxitoxin or anatoxin-a.

**DOWNGRADED:**

**Deer Creek State Park**

The advisory for Deer Creek State Park is being downgraded from a toxin advisory to a bloom advisory because microcystin results are low and levels are non-detect for the three other algal toxins. Microcystin results from the August 30 sampling event showed levels of the algal toxin ranged from 0.7-1.3 ppb. This means people should avoid contact with surface scum.

**REMAINING:**

**Berlin Lake:**

Following reports of an algae bloom at the southern end of the reservoir located in Portage, Stark and Mahoning counties, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers sampled for microcystin on August 25. Results back this week showed no detection of the algal toxin.

**Wingfoot Lake State Park:**

Microcystin results from the August 30 sampling event showed levels of the algal toxin ranged from 50 ppb to more than 250 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.

**Grand Lake St. Marys**

Anatoxin continues to be present in trace amounts at three beaches at Grand Lake St. Marys (Auglaize and Mercer counties). Samples this week had levels at 0.1, 0.2 and 0.3 parts per billion (ppb) at East, Camp and West beaches, respectively. Because anatoxin is present, the current "no contact" advisory will remain in place for activities with direct water contact, such as

swimming or water skiing. Microcystin levels at the Celina Water Plant intake also are low, at 1.5 ppb, which is consistent with other microcystin results this week. No toxins have been detected in Celina's treated drinking water.

### **Microcystin Non Detect Results**

Sample results from August 30 for microcystin came back non-detect for water bodies at the following parks: Lake Alma, Burr Oak, Stonelick and Blue Rock State Parks.

### **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  
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)  
Deer Creek State Park  
Delaware State Park (unnamed pond)  
East Harbor State Park (Lake Erie bloom)  
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 4 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)