



Date: August 31, 2009

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Public health advisory lifted for Hills Creek Reservoir

A health advisory prompted by high algae levels found in Hills Creek Reservoir, located four miles from Oakridge in the Willamette National Forest, was lifted today by the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS).

The advisory went into effect July 30, 2009.

Water monitoring has confirmed reduced levels of blue-green algae, which can produce toxins harmful to humans and animals.

These reduced levels are not likely to be associated with dangerous toxin concentrations in the water, according to [World Health Organization guidelines](#).

DHS advises people who recreate in Oregon water bodies always to be alert to signs of algae blooms. People and their pets should avoid water contact if there are visible clumps of algae in the water. Boating is safe as long as speeds do not create excessive water spray, which could lead to inhalation risk.

For local information contact the Willamette National Forest (541-782-2283) or www.fs.fed.us/r6/willamette/.

For health information, contact Laura Boswell, DHS Harmful Bloom Surveillance program coordinator, 971-673-0440 or www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/hab/; also, the DHS toll-free information line at 1-877-290-6767.