

# NEWS RELEASE



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## **Oregon Public Health lifts advisory for water contact at Tolovana State Park Beach**

A health advisory for contact with marine water at Tolovana State Park Beach in Clatsop County was lifted today by the Oregon Public Health Division in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

The advisory was issued June 2, after water samples at Tolovana State Park Beach showed higher-than-normal levels of *enterococcus*, a type of fecal bacteria, in the marine water. Subsequent testing showed the contamination has subsided and the waters do not pose a higher-than-normal risk associated with water-contact activities.

State officials encourage recreational activities at all Oregon beaches, suggesting only that water contact be avoided when advisories are in effect.

Since 2003, state officials have used a federal Environmental Protection Agency grant to monitor popular Oregon beaches and make timely reports to the public about elevated levels of fecal bacteria. Oregon state agencies participating in this program are Oregon Public Health, DEQ and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. More detailed test results are available at [www.healthoregon.org/beach](http://www.healthoregon.org/beach). For local State Parks information, contact Robert Smith at 503-986-0665.

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