

NEWS RELEASE



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Health advisories lifted for water contact at Seaside and Sunset Bay State Park beaches

Health advisories for contact with marine water at Seaside Beach in Clatsop County and Sunset Bay State Park Beach in Coos County were lifted today by the Oregon Public Health Division in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

The advisories were issued Tuesday at Seaside Beach and Thursday at Sunset Bay State Park Beach after water samples showed higher-than-normal levels of fecal bacteria in the marine water. Subsequent testing showed the contamination had subsided and the water did 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, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. For more information contact the Beach Monitoring program at 971-673-0400 or www.healthoregon.org/beach; also contact the Oregon Public Health toll-free information line at 1-877-290-6767.

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