

News release

Jan. 9, 2012

Media contact: Christine Stone, Oregon Public Health, 971-673-1282, desk; 503-602-8027, cell; Christine.I.stone@state.or.us

Technical questions: Jennifer Ketterman, Oregon Public Health, 971-673-0431;
Bonnie Widerburg, Oregon Public Health, 971-673-0976

Oregon Public Health Division lifts advisory for South Umpqua River near Myrtle Creek *Reduced blue-green algae levels confirmed*

A health advisory prompted by high algae levels found in the South Umpqua River near Myrtle Creek was lifted today by Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Division and Douglas County Health Department officials.

The advisory went into effect July 29.

Water monitoring has confirmed reduced levels of blue-green algae that 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.

Oregon health officials advise people who recreate in Oregon water bodies to always 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.

For health information, contact the Harmful Algae Bloom Surveillance program at 971-673-0400 or www.healthoregon.org/hab; also contact the Oregon Public Health toll-free information line at 1-877-290-6767 or Douglas County Health Department at 541-440-3686.

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