



Date: September 14, 2017

Location: Russian River

Public Information Update 9

Update

Earlier this week, the Department of Health Services (DHS) collected samples at our 10 most frequented Russian River beaches and there was no detection of blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) toxins. As weather and water conditions are no longer favorable for blue-green algae growth, DHS will remove the “Caution” signs today, and will no longer be conducting tests for blue-green algae toxins this year.

The decision to remove the signage and stop testing was made in conjunction with the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. DHS and partners will work together to review this year’s coordinated response to blue-green algae and develop plans for appropriate monitoring and management next year and beyond.

Though tests show the river to be free of cyanobacteria toxins, DHS always encourages individuals to follow healthy water habits:

- Do not drink river water. Do not cook or wash dishes with river water.
- Keep children away from algae in the water, on the shore and in isolated side pools.
- Wash yourself and your family, including any pets, with clean water after river play.
- Keep dogs away from algae in the river, on the shoreline and in isolated side pools.
- Bring fresh water for your dog and do not let them drink river water.
- If you have concerns regarding your family or pet's health, contact your healthcare provider or veterinarian.
- For more information regarding the status of the Russian River, call the recorded beach hotline at (707) 565-6552 or visit DHS’ website: <http://www.sonoma-county.org/health/services/bluegreen.asp>