

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

July 13, 2016

Island Lake swimming beaches temporarily closed

High levels of E.coli prompt closure; additional samples collected today

KITSAP COUNTY, WA— Today the Kitsap Public Health District temporarily closed the swimming beaches at Island Lake County Park and Island Lake Crista Camp due to high levels of E. coli bacteria in the water. Residents who live on Island Lake are encouraged to stay out of the water until further notice.

Results from water samples collected on Tues., July 12, show unusually high levels of E. coli bacteria. Kitsap Public Health re-tested the lake today and posted swimming area closure signs for both swimming beaches. Results are expected by Thursday afternoon at which time an update will be provided.

Kitsap Public Health is also investigating potential causes of the high E.coli levels in the lake.

No illnesses have been reported to Kitsap Public Health at this time.

Since there is an increased risk of getting sick the public is advised to avoid all contact with the water in Island Lake until further notice. This means no swimming, wading, or types of water play where water could be swallowed or get in the mouth, nose or eyes. The risk of illness is greatest for young children, the elderly, or anyone with a compromised immune system.

To report a waterborne illness other than swimmer's itch, the public is asked to call Kitsap Public Health (360) 337-5235 or submit information on-line at www.kitsappublichealth.org. Healthcare providers seeing patients this summer with flu-like symptoms should inquire about recent contact with water bodies and report suspected cases of water-borne illness to Kitsap Public Health. This helps identify potentially contaminated sites as early as possible.

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