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Algae advisory lifted for Willow Creek Reservoir

The algae advisory issued in July for Willow Creek Reservoir has been lifted, the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced today.

Recent water sampling confirms reduced levels of a species of blue-green algae that can produce toxins harmful to humans and animals. State guidelines recommend waiting two weeks after algal cell counts fall below state-specified levels before lifting advisories related to algae blooms.

DHS advises people who recreate in Oregon reservoirs to always be alert for signs of algal blooms. People and their pets should avoid water contact if there are visible clumps of algae in the water.

For local information, contact The Dalles, John Day, Willow Creek Project at 541- 506-7802. Additional information on blue-green algae can be found on the Health Division Web site at <http://oregon.gov/DHS/ph/envtox/maadvisories.shtml>.