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State Urges Caution for Recreational Activities at Lake

Ohio EPA, Ohio Department of Natural Resources and Ohio Department of Health urge people visiting Burr Oak State Park to be cautious if they have contact with water in the lake. This advisory is for recreational activities in the lake.

Following reports of a blue-green scum forming on the lake by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, water quality sampling will be conducted to identify the organism and to determine if microcystin toxin is present. Ohio EPA expects to have a full analysis of the samples from the laboratory sometime next week.

Ohio EPA is also in contact with the operator of the Burr Oak drinking water system and will conduct future sampling on the finished water to assure it is safe. Currently, there are no reports of changes in water quality conditions at the plant.

People should use similar precautions as they would in any non-chlorinated surface water. People and pets are advised to minimize contact with and avoid ingestion of the lake water.

Additional information is available online at:

Great Lakes Sea Grant Extension www.glerl.noaa.gov/seagrant/GLWL/Algae/HAB/HABFAQ.html

Centers for Disease Control www.cdc.gov/hab/cyanobacteria/facts.htm

Ohio EPA (Harmful Algal Blooms) www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/HAB.aspx

ODH (Harmful Algal Blooms) www.odh.ohio.gov/features/odhfeatures/algalblossoms.aspx

ODNR (Burr Oak State Park) www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/parks/burroak/tabid/719/Default.aspx

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