



Skamania County
Department of Public Works

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Public Health issues blue-green algae advisories for Drano Lake

Stevenson, Wash. – Skamania County Environmental Health has issued an advisory for Drano Lake east of Stevenson, WA due to blooms of cyanobacteria, also known as blue-green algae.

A blue-green algae bloom in Drano Lake was reported to Skamania County Wednesday afternoon. Skamania county staff visited Drano Lake this morning and identified blue-green algae blooms.

Water samples were collected from Drano lake. Results from those samples should be available next week and will determine if toxins are in the water.

Public Health staff spotted blooms in Drano Lake west of the boat launch.

Public Health is advising people to avoid direct contact with lake water in areas of floating blue-green-colored scum. Blue-green algae produce toxins that can be harmful to people and deadly for small pets that drink the water.

Health officials are recommending:

- No swimming or water skiing in areas of scum.
- No drinking lake water.
- No water contact for animals in areas of scum.
- Avoid areas of scum when boating.
- Clean fish well and discard organs.

Caution signs have been posted at Drano Lake. Skamania County will continue to monitor the lake as long as blooms are present, and signs will be updated as conditions change.

Additional information about blue-green algae can be obtained from the CDC at the following link:

https://www.google.com/search?q=cyanobacteria+bloom&rlz=1C1CHBF_en&oq=cyano&aqs=chrome.69i59j0j69i57j0l2j69i60.2949j0j0&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8.