

Health alert issued for Kirkman's Cove Lake

(KLZA)--Kirkman's Cove Lake, northwest of Humboldt, has been placed on “Health Alert Status” due to toxic algae levels in the water.

Water tests conducted June 4, confirmed the toxic algae levels exceeded limits set for safe contact with the water. All body contact activities including swimming, wading and water skiing are restricted until further notice.

Nemaha Natural Resources District officials report the recreation area remains open, and all other usual activities such as boating, picnicking, camping, and hiking are permitted. Fishing is still allowed, though anglers are encouraged to practice “catch and release” as the toxins could be present in the liver, intestines and pancreas of fish.

Park visitors are cautioned not to ingest or make contact with the water and to particularly make sure children and pets do not come in contact with the water. Most of the risk associated with this form of algae is limited to skin irritations; however, gastrointestinal illness and liver disease could result from ingestion of the water.

Signs have been posted at the lake informing visitors of the water restrictions. Because of the high readings, the alert will remain until results drop below safety limits for two consecutive weeks.

The water is tested weekly. For more information you can go the Nemaha NRD website, www.nemahanrd.org.

Many Signals Communications