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Swimming Beach Closed at Island Lake County Park

BREMERTON, WA --- The Kitsap County Health District has issued a closure advisory for the swimming beach at Island Lake County Park. Water samples collected on July 8, 2009, indicate there are elevated levels of E. coli bacteria in water at the beach. Additional samples collected on July 9, 2009, show that bacteria levels continue to be above the closure threshold.

Warning signs have been posted at the swimming area. Since there is an increased risk of getting sick, the public is advised to avoid all water contact in this area until further notice. This means there should be no swimming, wading, or other types of water play where water could be swallowed or enter the mouth, nose or eyes. The risk is greatest for young children, the elderly, or anyone with a compromised immune system.

Additional samples will be collected on Wednesday, July 15, 2009. The beach will be reopened if sampling results demonstrate that bacteria concentrations have dropped to safe levels.

The Health District collects weekly bacteria samples between May and September from high use public swimming beaches at lakes throughout Kitsap County. These monitoring activities are funded through the Kitsap County Surface and Storm Water Management Program.

To report a waterborne illness, algae bloom, a case of swimmer's itch, or if you have any questions regarding the Health District's lake monitoring program, please call the District's Water Program at (360) 337-5235.

Information about current swimming beach closures is also available on the Health District's telephone hotline at 1-800-2BE-WELL (1-800-223-9355), or online at www.kitsapcountyhealth.com.

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