



News Release

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Central Park Pond elevated to blue green algae warning

TOPEKA, KAN. – The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has upgraded Central Park Pond to a blue-green algae warning. The pond had been under a blue green algae watch. Shawnee County Parks + Recreation will post warning signs at the pond. KDHE will continue to monitor the pond.

Blue-green algae can be harmful to humans and animals. According to KDHE, a public health warning means:

- The public is notified that conditions are unsafe
- Signs will be posted at all public access locations
- Water contact should not occur
- Water may be unsafe for humans/animals

Humans should avoid areas of algae accumulation. If people's hands contact the water they should wash their hands with clean water as soon as possible. Animals should avoid contacting or drinking the water. Fishing is still permitted, however only the fillet portion of the fish should be eaten. All guts should be discarded.

Blue-green algae was previously found in Central Park Pond in 2012, 2016 and 2017.

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