

Communications Office

Peterborough County-City Health Unit
10 Hospital Drive
Peterborough, ON K9J 8M1
(705) 743-1000, ext. 391
www.pcchu.ca



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Crab Lake Now Clear of Blue-Green Algae Bloom

Residents Still Cautioned Not to Use Water Where Algae Suspected

The Peterborough County-City Health Unit is advising residents that the unconfirmed blue-green algae bloom reported last week in Crab Lake, Kawartha Highlands Park has subsided. Park staff inspected the lake on August 7 and report that the area is now clear.

People who use lake or river water are still advised not to use water in areas where they see a large, dense algae bloom. Algae blooms can occur quickly and travel with water currents. It is best to be cautious. If a blue-green algae bloom is suspected, the Health Unit recommends residents assume toxins are present, avoid using the water and call the Ministry of the Environment Spills Action Centre at 1-800-266-6060.

Blue-green algae blooms are natural phenomena that occur in fresh water lakes, bays and inlets. The algae thrive in areas where the water is shallow, slow moving and warm. One key factor affecting growth rates is the level of available nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen. It is difficult to predict when and where a bloom will occur and for how long the toxin will be present as environmental conditions continually change. Information for residents about blue-green algae is available on www.pcchu.ca.

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For further information, please contact:

Shawn Telford-Eaton
Public Health Inspector
(705) 743-1000, ext. 287

NEWS RELEASE