

Adapted from the City of Boise Parks and Recreation website:

<https://parks.cityofboise.org/news/2018/09/esther-simplot-park-ponds-closed-due-to-algal-bloom-discovery/>

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Esther Simplot Park ponds closed due to algal bloom discovery



The City of Boise has closed ponds No. 1 and No. 2 at Esther Simplot Park due to the discovery of cyanobacteria or blue-green algae.

Tests show that the blue-green algae are species that are able to produce toxins.

All recreation in the pond is prohibited until further notice. The city is actively treating both ponds and no reopening date has been determined at this time. Signs have been posted at the ponds to notify citizens of the closure.

“The health and safety of our citizens is always our top priority, so the ponds will remain closed to ensure visitor safety,” said Parks and Recreation Director Doug Holloway.

This type of algae can be harmful to people and pets. The Boise Parks and Recreation Department asks that visitors continue to obey all posted signs and park rules at Esther Simplot Park and nearby Quinn’s Pond.

As a reminder, dogs are never allowed at Quinn’s Pond or Esther Simplot Park, including ponds No. 1 and No. 2 and the previously designated dog off-leash area.

Pond No. 1 is the larger of the two ponds at Esther Simplot Park and it includes the children’s beach area. Pond No. 2 is the smaller of the two ponds and on the western side of the park.

The City of Boise diligently monitors water quality at Esther Simplot Pond and Quinn’s Pond to protect public health. City staff will continue to update the public on the situation as it develops.

At this time, Quinn’s Pond remains open for recreational use.