

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 3rd, 2025

9:52 AM

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E. coli Bacteria Detected in 3 Local Lakes

KEARNEY- Multiple lakes in the Two River's area have tested positive for E. Coli. These lakes include Cottonmill Swimming Pond in Kearney, Harlan County Reservoir in Alma, and Windmill State Recreation Area Lake No. 5 in Gibbon. When E. coli bacteria levels test above 235 colonies/100 ml a Health Alert is not issued. However, conditions are at a higher risk to human health when swimming. Considering the more rapid changes in bacteria conditions, signs are not posted with these higher levels. Although, we want people to be aware of beach conditions and use their own judgment as to whether they use a listed water body.

What should I do if I find the levels are above the risk-based guidelines?

- Avoid any situation that could cause you to swallow lake water
- If you have been in contact with lake water, shower afterward
- If you have been in contact with lake water, wash hands before eating

ABOUT TWO RIVERS PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Two Rivers Public Health Department engages collaborative partners, community leaders and the public to promote healthy lifestyles, provide preventative education, assure environmental quality, and create more healthy and safe communities for all who live within the district. Follow TRPHD on Facebook and Twitter @2RPHD