

NEWS RELEASE



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Headline: Health advisory lifted for water contact at Bastendorff Beach:
Testing shows fecal bacteria levels have subsided

A health advisory for contact with marine water at Bastendorff Beach in Coos County was lifted today by the Oregon Public Health Division, in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

The advisory was issued June 9, after water samples at Bastendorff Beach showed higher-than-normal levels of *enterococcus*, a type of fecal bacteria, in the marine water. Subsequent testing showed the contamination had subsided and the waters did not pose a higher-than-normal risk associated with water-contact activities.

State officials encourage recreational activities at all Oregon beaches, suggesting only that water contact be avoided when advisories are in effect.

Since 2003 state officials have used a federal Environmental Protection Agency grant to monitor popular Oregon beaches and make timely reports to the public about elevated levels of fecal bacteria. Oregon state agencies participating in this program are Oregon Public Health, DEQ and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. More detailed test results are available at www.healthoregon.org/beach.

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