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Public Service Announcement

For Immediate Release

September 27, 2016

Blue-Green Algae Advisory at Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park

Victoria, BC- The Capital Regional District advises that water samples taken from Beaver Beach at [Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park](#) have tested positive for blue-green algae and associated cyanotoxins. Visitors are advised to avoid Beaver Lake and to keep animals on a leash to prevent them from drinking or swimming in the lake. There are no signs of blue-green algae at Elk Lake. Monitoring will continue at both lakes.

The algae produces a visible blue-green sheen, which appears as surface scum. Algal blooms are unpredictable and may occur at any time, although blooms most typically occur over the winter months from November to March. These algae are known toxin producers and these compounds have been detected in the current bloom at Elk/Beaver Lake. Ingesting water containing the blue-green algae may cause a range of symptoms, including headaches and abdominal pain in humans, and can lead to lethal liver damage in dogs.

Please visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks and Twitter [@crd_bc](#) for updates.

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For further please contact:

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