

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 25, 2018

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State Parks Issues Notice of Blue-Green Algae at Eagle Nest Lake & Cimarron Canyon State Parks

Eagle Nest, NM – New Mexico State Parks has issued a notice for the presence of Blue-green algae at Eagle Nest Lake and Cimarron Canyon State Parks. Officials are advising visitors who recreate at these state parks of possible health risks associated with exposure to blue-green algae – a naturally occurring organism in lakes that can produce toxins but is short lived. As a precaution, State Parks is posting notices at Eagle Nest Lake and Cimarron Canyon State Parks and distributing flyers to visitors.

Blue-green algae can form anytime, particularly in the summer or early fall when conditions include the presence of warm, shallow, nutrient rich water that receives a lot of sunlight. Most blue-green algae are safe; however, people should be aware that toxic conditions can exist and should limit their contact with blue-green algae as much as possible. Seek medical attention immediately if you think you, your child, or your pet might have been exposed.

To guard against exposure, consider the following precautions:

- When boating, water skiing or swimming, don't encounter water that is discolored or where excessive foam, scum, or mats of algae on the water are visible
- Avoid swimming in areas with large quantities of algae
- Shower or rinse off with clean water after swimming and prior to food preparation and eating
- Rinse pets off with clean water instead of allowing pets to groom themselves
- Bring clean water for pets and keep them away from the lake
- Never drink untreated surface water, whether algae blooms are present
- Seek immediate medical attention if symptoms occur after possible exposure

For more information on YOUR New Mexico State Parks, please visit our website at www.nmparks.com or call 1-888-nmparks.



Conditions are Right for Adventure at New Mexico State Parks!

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The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.

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