## EMMONS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

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## **News Release**

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Attached Artwork:

None

## NDDEQ Issues Harmful Algal Bloom Advisory for Braddock Dam

**[LINTON, ND] –** The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has issued a Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Advisory for Braddock Dam.

NDDEQ reported on August 4 that a HAB report had been received and investigated. Staff visited Braddock Dam and testing indicated an elevated level of toxins associated with a HAB. A water sample has been collected and sent to an independent laboratory for confirmation.

Blue-green algae can produce cyanotoxins which may cause serious health effects in people and animals. To reduce the risk of illness:

- Avoid swimming, waterskiing or tubing if the water looks like spilled green paint or pea soup.
- Avoid swallowing water and watch small children and pets who may ingest water.
- Rinse off with non-lake water after contact with water.
- While fish are safe to consume, take the following precautions:
  - o Rinse hands with non-lake water after landing fish.
  - Wash fish thoroughly with tap water before cleaning.
- Contact your health provider or veterinarian if you or your pet become ill after swimming.

For more information, or to report a potential HAB, visit <a href="https://deq.nd.gov/WQ/3">https://deq.nd.gov/WQ/3</a> Watershed Mgmt/8 HABS/Habs.aspx or call the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality at (701) 328-5150.