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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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June 6, 2025

Public Health Advisory: Elevated E. coli Levels in Swan Creek and its Tributaries

The Toledo-Lucas County Health Department has issued a public health advisory for Swan Creek and its tributaries – from Eastgate to the Maumee River – due to elevated levels of E. coli bacteria detected during recent water testing.

The testing was conducted in the ongoing response to a sewer system failure in the area last month. A sample collected on June 5 resulted in E. coli levels exceeding the maximum daily limit for the Maumee Watershed, as set by Ohio EPA.

Effective immediately, residents should avoid all contact with Swan Creek and its tributaries, including wading, swimming, and fishing, from Eastgate to the Maumee River. This includes Swan Creek Metropark, Highland Park, Sterling Park, and Boeschstein Park.

This advisory is being issued to protect public health, as exposure to water contaminated with E. coli can cause serious illness, especially in young children, older adults, and individuals with weakened immune systems.

About E. coli:

Escherichia coli (E. coli) is a group of bacteria that normally lives in the intestines of healthy people and animals. While many strains are harmless, some can cause illness. Exposure to contaminated water can lead to symptoms such as:

- Diarrhea, which may be watery or bloody
- Stomach cramps and pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Low-grade fever
- Fatigue

Residents are advised to:

- Avoid contact with Swan Creek water until further notice, including wading, swimming, and fishing.
- Ensure children and pets do not play in or near the creek.
- Practice good hygiene, such as washing hands thoroughly after outdoor activities.

The advisory will remain in effect until water samples confirm that E. coli levels have returned to levels deemed safe by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. For updates and additional information, please visit www.lucascountyhealth.com or the [City of Toledo's website](http://www.cityoftoledo.com).

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