



PRESS RELEASE

City of Sweet Home
1140 12th Avenue
Sweet Home, OR 97386
541-367-8969
Fax 541-367-5007

City Manager/Mayor's Office

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 29, 2018: 05:20 PM

For Information Contact:

Ray Towry, City Manager

City of Sweet Home

541-367-8969

rtowry@ci.sweet-home.or.us

Sweet Home Drinking Water Quality UPDATE #2

Water test from June 25th registers with "non-detect" for Cyanotoxins.

SWEET HOME, OR – June 29, 2018 - In response to the Cyanotoxins found in the City of Salem's drinking water caused by algae blooms in Detroit Lake the cities that collect water from the South Santiam River running out of Foster Lake and Green Peter Reservoir formed a coalition to develop a plan to identify and cope with the potential issue should algae blooms be found in the South Santiam River. Simultaneously the OHS started formulating a set of temporary administrative rules.

Sweet Home collected a sample of our raw water on Monday, June 25, 2018. The results were returned with a "non-detect" for Cyanotoxins.

The City of Sweet Home proactively sampled our finish water on June 15, 2018. Finish water is the water after treatment but prior to entering the distribution system. These samples typically require 7-14 business days for results. As of the time of this press release we are still awaiting those results.

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is proposing a temporary rule requiring all water systems supplied by surface water to monitor for Cyanotoxins caused by algae blooms. Water providers will be required to monitor the raw water prior to it entering the treatment processes every two weeks from May 1, through October 31.

The City will continue to sample the raw water to continue to provide high quality water for the community. Sweet Home's water supply is regularly and frequently monitored according to OHA standards. We remain vigilant for any signs of contamination and will ensure that our customers receive prompt notification of any detected problems. Customers with questions may contact Sweet Home Public Works Department at (541) 367-6359.

The City of Sweet Home will continue to collaborate with other municipalities, county officials and state entities to ensure healthy drinking water.

Periodic updates will be posted on the Cities website: <https://www.sweet-home.or.us/>

If you would like to know more about harmful algae blooms and Cyanotoxins, visit the Oregon Health Authority website:

<http://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HealthyEnvironments/DrinkingWater/Operations/Treatment/Pages/algae.aspx>.

###

Sweet Home, Oregon, is nestled at the base of the Cascade Mountains right along Foster Lake. The community has nearly 10,000 people within its incorporated area and embraces an additional 6,000 or so



PRESS RELEASE

people as “community members,” who reside just outside our city limits. With scenic vistas and an abundance of outdoor recreation opportunities at our doorstep, Sweet Home is Oregon...at its best!

Visit us at: www.ci.sweet-home.or.us!!