

Christopher G. Parker, AICP  
Director  
c.parker@ci.dover.nh.us



288 Central Avenue  
Dover, New Hampshire 03820-4169

(603) 516-6008  
Fax: (603) 516-6097  
www.ci.dover.nh.us

***City of Dover, New Hampshire***  
Department of Planning & Community Development

**WILLAND POND: IMPORTANT HEALTH RELATED NOTICE**

Dear Willand Pond Resident:

City staff from both Dover and Somersworth visited the pond yesterday afternoon, July 11, 2007 and found most parts of the Pond impacted by green algae. NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) water quality experts were immediately notified and NHDES field personnel were dispatched this morning, July 12<sup>th</sup> to collect water samples at the pond. The sampling revealed that the algae are cyanobacteria, or blue-green algae. Cyanobacteria are natural components of many water bodies in New Hampshire. Cyanobacteria may bloom and form surface scum conditions when excess nutrients and ample sunlight are available for growth. Many cyanobacteria contain toxins that are produced and released during bloom conditions. The toxins can cause both acute and chronic health effects ranging in severity from skin and mucous membrane irritations, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea to liver and central nervous system damage.

***Until further notice, people should avoid contact and ingestion of pond water. Pets are especially susceptible to the bacteria and should not be allowed to enter or drink from the pond at this time.***

Our staff have met with NHDES and they will continue to monitor water quality and Cyanobacteria levels for the remainder of the summer and fall. All entrances to Willand Pond have been posted with this information and visitors are advised to avoid contact with the pond water for themselves and their pets until further notice. For further information please contact John Carlson, the City of Dover's Health Officer at (603) 516-6008.

**WILLAND POND: IMPORTANT HEALTH RELATED NOTICE**