



CITY OF THE DALLES
Department of Public Works
1215 West 1st Street
The Dalles, Oregon 97058

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: July 19, 2020

TOPIC: Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge Returned to Compliance

CONTACT: Public Works Department (541) 296-5401

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

The discharge to the Columbia River from the City of The Dalles Wastewater Treatment Plant has returned to compliance with permit limits for *E. coli* as of July 19, 2020 at 5:18 a.m. The average of five samples taken throughout the day on July 18, 2020 at the City discharge point to the river were within limits. The delay in reading out the test results is due to the 24-hour incubation time that the test requires.

Recent Columbia River samples show that *E. coli* levels at the sample locations were well below bacterial [criteria](#) set by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for freshwater recreation.

E. coli in recreational waters	Average	Maximum
DEQ Criteria OAR 340-041-0009 Bacteria	126.0 MPN/100L (90-days)	406.0 MPN/100L
Results from samples taken between Columbia River Mile 186.5 and 189.5 on July 15, 2020	4.1 MPN/100L	6.3 MPN/100L

MPN = Most Probably Number

Signs which were placed at locations of public river access on the Oregon shore of the Columbia River, to warn of contaminated water, were taken down this morning.

The Department is in communication with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and local health department officials to coordinate demobilization. Questions can be directed to the Public Works Department office at (541) 296-5401.

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