



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

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: June 9, 2017
TOPIC: Wastewater Treatment Plant Upset
CONTACT: Public Works Department (541) 296-5401
FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

The City of The Dalles Wastewater Treatment Plant has experienced an upset this week which has resulted in discharge of effluent exceeding the plant's limit for *E. coli*.

On June 9th one of the twice-weekly tests for *E. coli* in the plant's effluent to the river exceeded 406 organisms per 100 milliliters, the limit for a single sample. As required by the City's NPDES permit, a series of five samples at 4-hour intervals was initiated; that sampling is currently underway. Samples will continue to be taken at the treatment plant until *E. Coli* counts are back within permit limits.

Signs are being posted along the Columbia River as designated locations to notify the public about the potential contamination.

The cause of the upset is unknown at this time and under investigation.

The upset has been reported to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. Questions can be directed to the Public Works Department office at (541) 296-5401.