



Joint Media Release from Casper-Natrona County Public Health, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, and Town of Mills

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Sewage Discharge into Casper Creek

On Monday June 25, 2018, the Town of Mills became aware of a sewage leak along Casper Creek and upon investigation discovered a sewer line was leaking. Immediate action was taken to shut down the line and rerouted sewage to an alternate line. It was also determined that an unknown quantity of sewage had reached Casper Creek, a tributary of the North Platte River. The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality is working with the Town of Mills to remediate the area of the leak and water testing has begun to determine the extent of the contamination. The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality notified the Casper-Natrona County Health Department on Tuesday morning regarding the discharge and the potential health risk.

At this time, it is not known if any of sewage reached the North Platte River. Until more information becomes available and testing can confirm the safety of the water, the Casper-Natrona County Health Department recommends that citizens avoid recreational use of the North Platte River from SW Wyoming Boulevard bridge downstream (east) to the Natrona/Converse County line.

Activities that should be avoided include:

- Swimming or wading
- Kayaking, floating, canoeing or jet skiing
- Fishing

Irrigation of lawns or gardens with water from the river or allowing dogs to swim in the river may also be a potential risk to human health.

Exposure to untreated sewage can cause diarrheal illnesses and vomiting as well as viral infections such as Hepatitis A.

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