



NEWS RELEASE

City of Chico

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY OF CHICO ADVISES CAUTION FOLLOWING FLUCTUATING E. COLI LEVELS IN SYCAMORE POOL

CHICO, CA — The City of Chico is advising residents and visitors to exercise caution following recent water quality testing at Sycamore Pool that has shown significant fluctuations in E. coli levels. While E. coli levels have fluctuated over the past week, with some test results exceeding the recommended threshold for safe swimming and others reflecting significantly lower concentrations, the most recent water quality results indicate that E. coli levels have increased once again and the City recommends no water contact.

After receiving test results indicating increased levels of E. coli, the City of Chico installed six swim advisory signs at Sycamore Pool, one on each lifeguard stand, informing the public that water contact is not recommended based on the most recent water testing results. **The swim advisory signage remains in place at this time.**

Water quality testing is an important tool for monitoring conditions in Sycamore Pool; however, testing represents only a snapshot of water quality at the specific time and location samples are collected. Natural waterways are dynamic environments, and bacteria levels can change rapidly due to a variety of factors. Even when samples are collected from multiple locations, testing cannot guarantee that conditions are the same throughout the pool or that water quality will remain unchanged after samples are taken.

Because of these natural fluctuations, there is always some level of risk associated with swimming in natural waterways. The safety of our residents and visitors remains the City's highest priority. The City of Chico will continue to monitor water quality through its routine testing program and will evaluate advisory signage as conditions change.

For additional information, including up-to-date Sycamore Pool water quality testing results, please visit <https://chicoca.gov/Our-Community/Parks-Recreation-and-Experience-the-Outdoors/Bidwell-Park/Swimming/>

Located in Butte County, California, Chico is the cultural and economic center of the northern Sacramento Valley and the largest city north of Sacramento. Known as a college town, the home of California State University, Chico and for Bidwell Park, one of the largest urban parks in the United States. For more information, visit www.chicoca.gov.

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