

## **Health warning lifted, advisory added for Lee waters-7-26-11**

Fort Myers, FL—The Lee County Health Department's warning not to swim, fish or allow pets and livestock to use fresh untreated open waters in Lee County has been replaced by an advisory to use caution before utilizing these water bodies.

Algae toxin levels showed a significant drop on test results that were received by the health department late Monday. The water sample was taken from the Caloosahatchee River July 11, 2011. Signs posted east of the Franklin Locks will be removed.

However, conditions are right for algae to continue to grow in all fresh untreated open water, said Charles Walther, Environmental Engineering director. If the water appears unusually bright green, or distressed or dead animal and marine life are near, it is recommended that neither humans nor animals drink the water or swim, boat or fish there.

If anyone should experience breathing difficulties near these water bodies, the health department recommends leaving the area immediately.

Please contact the health department to report breathing difficulties near water bodies by calling (239) 274-2200. To report dead or distressed marine and wildlife call the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission at (863) 648-3200.