

August 2, 2018

Norovirus-type Illness Reports from People Visiting Horseshoe Lake County Park Swimming Beach

Actions Requested

- Consider sending clinical specimens of patients who report having diarrhea, vomiting, and/or stomach cramps after visiting Horseshoe Lake County Park swimming beach since Saturday, July 28th. This will assist us in identifying the causative agent.
- Encourage patients who visited Horseshoe Lake County Park swimming beach since Saturday, July 28 who became ill with diarrhea, vomiting, and/or stomach cramps to call our reporting line at (360) 728-2205 to report their symptoms.
- Tell patients exhibiting the above symptoms to stay home for at least 48 hours after symptoms resolve and encourage proper hand hygiene and environmental cleaning within the home.

For questions, please contact our Communicable Disease staff at (360) 728-2235.

Background

The Kitsap Public Health District and Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Department have closed the swimming beach at Horseshoe Lake County Park until further notice while multiple reports of a norovirus-type illness are investigated.

The Kitsap Public Health District has received reports of people experiencing gastrointestinal illnesses after swimming at Horseshoe Lake County Park over the weekend. Although there is currently no laboratory confirmation of a specific virus or bacteria responsible for the illnesses, symptoms are consistent with norovirus infection. The beach has been closed as a precautionary measure to protect the public and prevent any additional illnesses.

People who visited Horseshoe Lake County Park since Saturday, July 28 and who become ill with diarrhea, vomiting, and/or stomach cramps are asked to call the Health District reporting line at 360-728-2205 to report their illness, the number of people affected, and which day(s) they were at the park. People may also report their illness symptoms online at <http://kitsappublichealth.org/about/health-concern.php>.

Resources

WA DOH Recreational Water Illnesses: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/IllnessandDisease/RecreationalWaterIllnesses>