

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

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NEWS RELEASE

Date: May 29, 2009

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The Shiawassee County Health Department recently conducted water sampling of the Shiawassee River to monitor *E. coli* bacteria levels. Five locations were monitored including Bath Rd. Bridge (Burns Twp.), Lehring Rd. Bridge (Burns Twp.), Newburg Rd. Bridge (Shiawassee Twp.), Gould St. Bridge (Owosso Twp.) and Henderson Rd. Bridge (Rush Twp.)

The Shiawassee River is safe for *Partial Body Contact* however; we do not recommend *Full Body Contact*, for example swimming, because river conditions change rapidly.

All river monitoring points in Shiawassee County are currently “in compliance” with established State guidelines for bacterial concentrations and body contact.

Exposure to any recreational water can be a potential health risk. Gastrointestinal and dermatological illnesses have been associated with recreational water exposure.

The Shiawassee County Health Department utilizes the following rules to interpret the *E. coli* test results. (By authority conferred on the Director of Public Health by Section 333.12544 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.)

Sample Location	Date	<i>E. Coli</i> per 100 ml *
Bath Rd.	5/26/2009	47
Lehring Rd.	5/26/2009	87
Newburg Rd.	5/26/2009	33
Gould St.	5/26/2009	17
Henderson Rd.	5/26/2009	30

*Not to exceed State guideline of 300 *E. coli* per 100 ml