# What you should know about **Beach Advisories in Iowa**

RESOURCES

IOWA — When summer hits, there's nothing better than cooling off at one of Iowa's lakes or beaches. Iowa's DNR tests the water at beaches weekly so you can enjoy it safely. Beach advisories help you make the best choices about when to swim and when to hold off. By staying informed, you can enjoy the outdoors with con-

What is tested? E. coli is a type of bacteria found in the intestines of people and animals. Most strains are harmless, but its presence in beach water can signal that other, more harmful bacteria, viruses, or other pathogens may be present too. That's why the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) monitors E. coli levels weekly throughout the summer.

In addition to E. coli monitoring, the program tracks microcystins. Microcystins are toxins produced by certain types of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) that often form green, paint-like scums or mats on the surface of warm, nutrient-rich water. These toxins pose health risks but have been a relatively minor issue in recent years, with only 2% to 7% of sampling events resulting in advisories. In 2024, just seven beaches had microcystin-related warn-

#### When does the DNR issue advisories?

The DNR tests beach water from Memorial Day to Labor day. It issues ad-

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visories when E. coli levels exceed safety thresholds:

- 126 CFU/100mL (geometric mean) • 235 CFU/100mL (sin-
- gle sample) Microcystin levels exceed safety thresholds:

8 micrograms per liter  $(\mu g/L)$ 

If levels go beyond these limits, an advisory is posted - not a closure, but a heads-up to use caution.

#### What does a bBeach advisory mean for you?

A beach advisory means the water may carry a higher risk of causing minor illnesses like diarrhea or nausea—especially if you swallow water. If you're healthy and just wading, you're likely fine if you rinse off after and wash your hands before eating. But if you have young kids, a weakened immune system, or plan to fully submerge and may ingest water during swimming, you may want to wait until levels drop. Stay out of areas with algae, especially if it has the appearance of oily paint on the surface.

#### How risky is it?

around CFU/100ml (CFU = Colony Forming Units), the estimated illness rate is about 36 minor illness per 1,000 swimmers

As the CFU/100mL results get larger, the potential risk for minor illness goes up, especially for those who swallow water.

## Beyond water quality, do you know all the

While the DNR provides information about the quality of the water

CAUGHT READING WORD SEARCH

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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

at beaches, most injuries and fatalities come from drowning.

Be sure to watch children, know your limits and remember that lake beds are inconsistent and deep holes exist.

Lifejackets for swimming can save lives! In the spring, it might be warm outside, but the water hasn't had time to warm up, and cold water can reduce body temperature quickly, drastically increasing the risk of drowning.

Iowa's lakes offer opportunities for fun and relaxation, but it's important to stay aware of the potential risks when enjoying the open water. By staying informed about water quality and following safety guidelines, you can help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience. So, get out there and make the most of Iowa's beautiful lakes—just remember to be safe and take the necessary precautions!

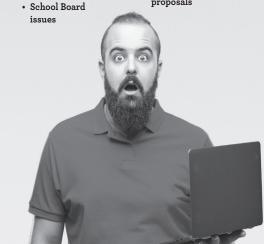
## The bottom line

## IOWA NEWSPAPER **ASSOCIATION**

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- · Government meetings, bids & contracts
  - · Elections/Polling places, initiative petitions
- · Unclaimed property



## Public notices, the key to your community. $\mid$ www.iowanotices.org

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## WORDS

**APPENDIX** AUDIO **AUTHOR BIBLIOGRAPHY BINDING** BLURB **BOOKS BOOKSTORE** BORROW CHAPTER **EDITION** E-READER **GENRE HARDCOVER** ILLUSTRATION IMAGINATION INTEREST LIBRARY NONFICTION **PAGE** READING **SHELVES** 

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• TR Plus • Tama Co. Shopper

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 the weekly editions

the weekly editions and shoppers.

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55

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1 Week in

Merchandise

6000 - Merchandise

Misc.

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To Place your ad Call Classifieds

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• TR Plus
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•The Times Republian,

1 Week in

• TR Plus • Tama Co. Shopper
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Chronicle.
Call today to place lt's... so simple. so timely.

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If you had something

to sell...

hard-to-find item you

wanted

or were

to buy...

looking for a job

to live...

where would you look?

**CLASSIFIED** 

I am an actress born on May 31, 1965 in New York. I began modeling as an infant and continued through childhood. Modeling turned into an acting career, and my feature film debut was in a horror film. My second and third films caused controversy for risqué content considering my young age.

Answer: Brooke Shields

702 S Main St.

Dysart



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SPINE

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**NEW ACREAGE** LISTING!! 6639 14th Ave. **Keystone** 

This 3.2 acre acreage has a 4 bedroom, 1.5 story home that has the potential to be a great place for someone. It does need some updates and cosmetic finish work. There is an eat-in kitchen, a nice living room and family room. Forced air furnace and a heat pump for additional heat and AC. Metal roof and vinyl siding. There is a  $40 \times 46$  machine shed/shop with a concrete floor and a 20 wide and 13 high overhead door. A  $24 \times 60$  older livestock building. There is the possibility of a little more land. With a little work, move to the country at an affordable price! \$175,000!



ACREAGE PRICE REDUCED! 2975 275th St. Clutier

setting with a 1.5 story, 4 bedroom home. Original woodwork hardwood floors, new metal roof 2020 & foundation spray foam 2023. Vinyl siding, some new windows. Large deck Garden/storage shed, PWA rural water, immediate possession! REDUCED TO \$295,000!!



**David Wrage** 

Realtor/Broker

319-640-8388

**NEW LISTING!!** 317 Main St. Clutier

good return. There is a main floor apartment that has two bedrooms and one bath. There is an upstairs apartment that could have 3 bedrooms and one bath. There is also a garage that can be rented. Could use some paint, floor coverings and a few updates and then would make 2 nice rentals





**NEW LISTING!!** 401 Carter St. Clutier This nice bungalow would make a great home for anyone or

could make a nice investment as a rental property. There are two bedrooms on the main floor, plus an unfinished attic that could potentially be remodeled in to a 3rd bedroom. There is a full bath on the main and a 3/4 bath in the basement. Sets on a nice corner lot, plus a second lot to the North. A great opportunity to own an affordable home!! Only \$49,500!!

Beautiful Historic Brick Home that has just been renovated and updated

from top to bottom. Everything from walls refurbished, to new electrical and light fixtures, to flooring, plus much more! 3 bedroom, 1.75 baths &

main floor laundry. Very nice original woodwork with ceiling beams, built-in china hutch, sun-room with French doors and leaded glass windows. 2 stall garage plus a carport, almost a 1/2 acre corner lot, located next

to city park. Move-in Condition!! \$289,000!!



SALE

**New Acreage** Listing! 3091 Hwy E-36 Clutier

rolling acreage with Hwy, frontage. Open floor plan from the kitchen to dining area to living room. Area in the basement for a rec. room. 2 stall attached garage, an older quonset machine shed. To be surveyed, approximately 3.3 acres, up to 3 additional acres are available. Updates include a newer kitchen after 2011 derecho and a new roof in 2020, PWA Rural Water, Septic ready for 'Time of Transfe A great opportunity to own a ranch home along a highway! Only \$285,000!! Homes are Selling,



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