

Central West Regional Algal Coordinating Committee

27 February 2012

Blue-green algae warning downgraded at Lake Cargelligo

The Central West Regional Algal Coordinating Committee today announced that the previously issued red level algal warning (high alert) for Lake Cargelligo, has been downgraded to green level (low alert).

Monitoring conducted by NSW Office of Water and State Water Corporation has shown that concentrations of blue-green algae have declined to low levels prompting the lifting of the red alert.

Blue-green algae occur naturally at low numbers. At these concentrations, algae would not normally be visible; however some species may affect taste and odour of water even at low numbers. At low levels it does not pose any problems for recreational, stock or household use.

People should use personal discretion at all times before entering a water body and be aware that algal blooms can develop in a 24 hour period.

The NSW Office of Water and State Water Corporation will continue routine water quality monitoring and advise any change as new results are received.

Information updates about the status of blue-green algae can be obtained from the Regional Algal Coordinating Committee freecall Algal Information Hotline on 1800 999 457 or at the NSW Office of Water website www.water.nsw.gov.au

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