



January 9, 2017

City of Port St. Lucie
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: Blue Green Algae at O.L. Peacock Sr. Park

What: Update on conditions at O.L. Peacock Sr. Park

When: Monday, Jan. 9, 2017

Where: O.L. Peacock Sr. Park, 1950 SW Dreyfuss Blvd., Port St. Lucie

Why: The City on Friday, Jan. 6, 2017 temporarily closed O.L. Peacock Sr. Park after initial tests determined blue green algae was present in the park's 100-acre lake, which is fully self-contained and not connected to drainage systems or the North Fork of the St. Lucie River. Further testing was needed to determine the species of blue green algae present. Blue green algae may cause skin irritation, upset stomach and can potentially be fatal to domesticated animals.

Update: This morning, Monday, Jan. 9, 2017, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection took samples from the lake, which have been overnighted to Tallahassee for testing. The City is awaiting the results of those tests.

The O.L. Peacock Park Sr. area, located on Dreyfus Boulevard, between Rosser and Gatlin Boulevards, was thoroughly inspected today, Monday, January 9, 2017, by officials via water craft to look for any illegal dumping of materials. Nothing unusual was found. City officials also inspected the condition of the pond to determine if the algae bloom had grown, remained the same or improved. The inspection concluded that the condition appeared to improve from the initial inspection conducted on January 5th. Additionally, officials have treated the water with a natural combatant in an effort to prevent the algae's ability to increase in size. The park remains closed until further notice.

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The City of Port St. Lucie is proud to be a hometown where people live, learn, work and play, and celebrate all of life's opportunities. With over 179,000 residents, Port St. Lucie is Florida's eighth largest city by population (South Florida's 3rd largest city). The City occupies an area of 120 square miles in St. Lucie County on Florida's east coast, about 50 miles north of West Palm Beach, half way between Miami and Orlando. The City provides most traditional municipal services including law enforcement, water and sewer, and public works. For more information, please visit: www.cityofpsl.com.

