

John Murray

From: Doug Halley
Sent: Monday, June 04, 2007 11:38 AM
To: John Murray
Cc: Don Johnson
Subject: NARA

Chairman Hunter has asked if the Health Department has concerns regarding dog water activities in the pond at NARA park. Since the pond was built the Health Department has been monitoring the bacteria levels during swimming season. Each season as temperatures rise and bather loading increases the bacteria levels also increase. These conditions have caused the pond to be closed multiple times since its opening because the water has exceeded safe bathing requirements.

To counteract those conditions staff at NARA pro-actively identify bacteria sources and remove them from the vicinity of the pond (geese and dog feces). Due to the relatively small volume of water and the limited recharge it receives in the summer the pond is very susceptible to quick increases of bacteria levels. As such identifying bacteria sources and inhibiting their access to the pond is good policy. Allowing Dog water activities between Memorial Day and Labor Day would be allowing a potential bacteria source that may negatively impact water quality.