

WARREN COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

416 South East Street – Lebanon, Ohio 45036

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For Immediate Release

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Wastewater Temporarily Redirected Public Advised Not to Enter Little Miami River South of Old 3C Highway Until Further Notice

The Warren County Health District has been notified of a breach in a sewer main by the Warren County Water & Sewer Department and the Ohio Environmental Health Association in the area of Socialville-Foster Road and Old 3C Highway.

As a precautionary measure, the Warren County Health District is advising citizens not to enter or fish in the Little Miami River south of Old 3C Highway in Warren County until the sewer breach has been repaired. The Warren County Health District will be conducting testing of the Little Miami River to identify potential increases in bacteria.

There are increased health risks associated with coming into contact with wastewater. Parasites, viruses and bacteria can cause a range of conditions including; diarrhea, dysentery, gastroenteritis and hepatitis A.

To prevent the spread of disease the Warren County Health District is advising the public not to enter the water until the breach has been corrected. Swallowing a small amount of contaminated wastewater or having contaminated wastewater come in contact with an open wound, may make you sick.

The symptoms can range from mild to severe. If you have diarrhea, the most important thing you can do is to drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration. This is especially important for young children, pregnant women, and persons with weakened immune systems (such as those living with HIV/AIDS, those who have received an organ transplant, or those receiving certain types of chemotherapy).

Seek medical care immediately if you experience any of the following symptoms:

- your diarrhea is bloody or diarrhea isn't improving after 3 days
- your diarrhea is accompanied by fever or chills
- you are dehydrated (signs of dehydration include: dry or "cottony" mouth, cracked lips, dry flushed skin, headache, irritability, not urinating at least four times a day, no tears when crying, not sweating, or confusion)

A health care provider may prescribe medicine to help replace the fluids your body has lost because of the diarrhea. In some cases, over-the-counter medications can slow the diarrhea.

The Warren County Health District will notify the public with additional information as needed. The public will be updated when the precautionary measures are lifted via media release.