



Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point  
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## MEMO

**TO:** Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers

**FROM:** Randy Anhorn

**DATE:** December 8, 2020

**RE:** The District's Cyanobacteria Monitoring and Analysis Protocol

### Background

At the District's August 6<sup>th</sup> and August 19<sup>th</sup> Board meetings, staff presented the District's current cyanobacteria monitoring and analysis as it pertains to potential harmful algal blooms. As part of the discussion, staff presented a flowchart detailing the District's current protocols which included following World Health Organization (WHO) suggestions by notifying the city and associated stakeholders (e.g., lake associations) of the potential health hazard when blue-green algal levels were greater than thresholds for moderate health risk (100,000 units/ml) and advises the property owner (e.g., the city which may own a city park adjacent to the lake) post advisory signs on the property. In addition, the District posts the health risk advisory information on the District's website (including on social media and in newsletters/press releases).

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to continue to follow its current protocol as laid out in the flowchart presented at the August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Staff has continued to have internal discussions on the protocol, including a couple meetings with the Board Chair, and are recommending to slightly tweak the District's cyanobacteria monitoring and analysis protocol to also include WHO guideline suggestions for when blue-green algal counts show a low probability of health risks (> 20,000 units/ml but < 100,000 units/ml) and a high probability of health risks (< 1,000,000 units/ml).

Attached is the revised flow chart detailing the District's proposed cyanobacteria monitoring and analysis protocol.

### Request

To promote discussion.