



CITY OF THE DALLES
Department of Public Works
1215 West 1st Street
The Dalles, Oregon 97058

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: August 8, 2025

TOPIC: Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge Returned to Compliance

CONTACT: Public Works Department (541) 296-5401

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

The discharge to the Columbia River from the City of The Dalles Wastewater Treatment Plant has returned to compliance with permit limits for *E. coli* as of August 8, 2025 at 10:05 p.m. The average of five samples taken throughout the day on August 7, 2025 at the City discharge point to the river were within limits. The delay in reading out the test results is due to the 24-hour incubation time that the test requires.

Recent Columbia River samples show that *E. coli* levels at the sample locations were well below bacterial [criteria](#) set by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for freshwater recreation.

E. coli in recreational waters	Average	Maximum
DEQ Criteria OAR 340-041-0009 Bacteria	126.0 MPN/100mL (90 days)	406.0 MPN/100mL
Results from samples taken between Columbia River Mile 186.5 and 189.5 on August 3, 2025	2.1 MPN/100mL	6.3 MPN/100mL
MPN = Most Probable Number		

Signs which were placed at locations of public river access on the Oregon shore of the Columbia River, to warn of contaminated water, will be taken down the morning of Saturday, August 9, 2025.

The Department is in communication with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and local health department officials to coordinate demobilization. Questions can be directed to the Public Works Department office at (541) 296-5401.

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