



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 30, 2025

CONTACT

Miranda Bowersox
City of Chico Public Information Officer
530-896-7209

CITY OF CHICO ISSUES SWIMMING ADVISORY AT SYCAMORE POOL IN BIDWELL PARK

CHICO, CA — The City of Chico is advising residents to avoid swimming in Sycamore Pool at One Mile Recreation Area in Bidwell Park until further notice.

Elevated levels of bacteria are present in the water, which presents an increased risk of illness to children, the elderly, and individuals with compromised immune systems.

- Avoid swimming in Sycamore Pool
- Wash hands thoroughly if in contact with creek water
- Keep pets out of the water
- Follow all posted signs and City updates

“Sycamore Pool is a Chico treasure that has been enjoyed by residents and visitors for decades; however, the safety of our community comes first,” said Shane Romain, City of Chico Park and Natural Resources Manager. “Right now, the water in Sycamore Pool has increased levels of bacteria, swimming is not recommended. We are working closely with Butte County Public Health to monitor the situation.”

“Butte County Public Health supports the City of Chico’s decision to issue a swim advisory for Sycamore Pool following the discovery of elevated bacteria levels. Protecting the health of our community is a top priority, and we will continue to work closely with the City to monitor conditions and help ensure the safety of this valued recreational space. We remind residents to respect any swimming advisory signs posted in the area and to always take steps to prevent waterborne illness when enjoying natural waterways. These environments are dynamic and can change quickly, so it’s important to stay aware and protect yourself and your family when swimming or recreating,” explained Dr. Jarett Beaudoin, Butte County Public Health Officer.

Sycamore Pool is a part of Big Chico Creek. Creeks, streams, and other natural waterways are untreated water

sources that may contain germs, bacteria, viruses, and parasites that cause waterborne illness or infection. When swimming in any natural waterway always remember to avoid swallowing water, rinse off your body with fresh water after swimming, and wash your hands with soap and water before eating. Residents who suspect that they have been infected with a waterborne illness should contact their healthcare provider. They may also call and report their illness to Butte County Public Health at 530-552-3929.

Located in Butte County, California, Chico is the cultural and economic center of the northern Sacramento Valley and the largest city north of Sacramento. Known as a college town, the home of California State University, Chico and for Bidwell Park, one of the largest urban parks in the United States. For more information, visit www.chicoca.gov.

###