



*news release*

From The Texas Department of Health  
1100 West 49th Street Austin, Texas 78756 (512) 458-7400

**TDH Lifts Consumption Advisory for Neches River Fish**

A five-year-old fish consumption advisory for a section of the Neches River has been lifted.

Due to elevated levels of dioxin in fish samples, the Texas Department of Health issued an advisory in September 1990 recommending that people limit consumption of fish taken from the section of the Neches between Evadale and Beaumont.

Recent tests of fish samples taken from the river indicate that dioxin levels now are low enough to allow safe consumption of the fish. Additional sampling of fish downriver to Sabine Lake indicate that those fish also are safe to consume.

Dioxin is a probable human carcinogen which also can cause liver damage, birth defects and reproductive abnormalities.

No other consumption advisories are in effect for any portion of the Neches.

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*(For more information, contact Mike Ordner, Seafood Safety Division, at 512-719-0215; or Doug McBride, Public Information Officer, at 512-458-7400 or 512-458-7111, ext. 2214.)*