

Water

FROM PAGE 1A

purpose in a couple of ways.

First, it will help people make informed decisions when choosing the best time and place to go enjoy the lake. Going for a swim or taking a boat ride? Check for the most recent water-quality results from the spot where you are heading.

I hope this new feature also will keep the issue of water quality at the forefront of public consciousness, indirectly encouraging everyone to cut down on pollution and to protect this most precious natural resource.

My plan is to present this report every week in-

side the newspaper for easy access to recent bacteria levels from all 16 sampling sites in Lake Geneva, Williams Bay, Fontana and the town of Linn.

The system is not without potential flaws, of course.

Please understand that the water-quality samples show bacteria levels that are detected only in isolated locations at specific moments in time. Conditions could change significantly a short time later or a short distance away.

There is also a chance that updated data might not always be available, if something goes wrong in any given week with the collection of water samples or with the laboratory testing.

But we are introducing this weekly report because we believe there is real value in bringing our readers the most reliable and up-to-date information that we can about our lake's water quality. Until a better system comes along, we will do our best with the system we have.

I am grateful to the Geneva Lake Environmental Agency for working with us to present this new public service.

And I hope you will let me know how the Lake Water Quality Report is helpful to you, or how you think we could make it better.

Enjoy your summer.

Scott Williams is editor of the Lake Geneva Regional News.