

Blue-green Algae



Avoid blue-green algae blooms in surface waters - they can cause health effects in people and animals



Know it.

It might be a blue-green algae bloom if you see:

- Strongly colored water.
- Paint-like appearance.
- Floating mats or scums.



Avoid it.

Always stay away from blooms in surface waters:

- Don't swim, fish, boat or wade in areas with blooms.
- Don't eat fish caught from areas with blooms.

If you're not on a public water supply:

- Bloom or no bloom, never drink, prepare food, cook, or make ice with untreated surface water.
- During a bloom, don't drink, prepare food, cook, or make ice with surface water, even if you treat it. Also consider not using the water for showering, bathing, or washing.

If you are on a public water supply:

- Your water is treated, disinfected and monitored for drinking and household use.



Report it.

- **Report blooms to:** HABSinfo@dec.ny.gov or harmfulalgae@health.ny.gov
- **Report bloom-related symptoms to:** harmfulalgae@health.ny.gov

- **Consider visiting a health care provider or contacting the Tompkins County Health Department at 274-6604** if you or your family are experiencing symptoms that might be related to blue-green algae exposure. Contact your veterinarian if you have concerns about your pet's blue-green algae exposure.

Learn more at:

health.ny.gov/harmfulalgae,
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/77118.html>
and <http://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/health>