

HABS MONITORING

With the help of over 70 trained volunteers and professional watershed staff, the water quality of Canandaigua Lake is routinely monitored for the presence of HABs. Water samples are collected for analysis at State certified labs. This enables us to inform and educate the public on current lake conditions, evaluate threats, and support programs that lead to solutions.

Sign up for weekly Water Quality Updates to receive Canandaigua Lake news straight to your inbox each week. Visit canandaigualakeassoc.org to sign up.

KNOW IT. AVOID IT. REPORT IT.

The best way to stay safe during HAB season is to be informed on what HABs can look like and to avoid recreating in the water if it looks like a bloom is present.

If a bloom is suspected, it is very helpful if it can be reported to the NYSDEC so that others can be informed when water quality may be unsafe. You can report below:

NYHABS, the DEC Statewide Reporting System: on.ny.gov/nyhabs

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Scan here to learn more about HABs from the NYSDEC.



GET INVOLVED

Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association (CLWA) is a member-supported non-profit organization whose mission is to inspire the entire watershed community to become stewards of Canandaigua Lake through education, scientific research, and advocating sound public policy.

HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

SIGN UP FOR E-NEWS TO RECEIVE
WATER QUALITY UPDATES

BECOME A CLWA MEMBER

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

TAKE THE LAKE FRIENDLY
LIVING PLEDGE

LEARN MORE ABOUT
PROTECTING CLEAN WATER



STAY CONNECTED

@canandaigualakewatershed

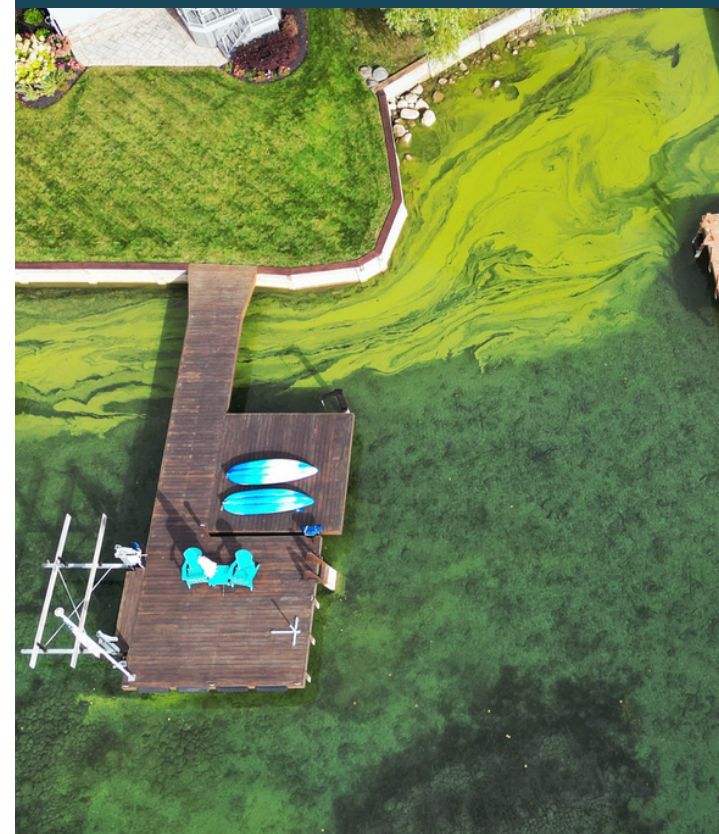


CLWA

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HABs

HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS



INFORMATION AND REPORTING GUIDE FOR CANANDAIGUA LAKE



CANANDAIGUA LAKE
WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS

Cyanobacteria, commonly referred to as blue-green algae or harmful algal blooms (HABs), are naturally occurring in lakes in low numbers. A combination of factors allows the bacteria to grow into blooms that can be harmful to human and animal health and degrade our water quality.

Use visual clues to identify HABs. They can appear like pea soup, spilled paint, and parallel streaks along the water's surface.

Blooms can move and appear quickly in the lake. If you see a bloom, avoid it!

WHAT TO DO DURING A HAB

- Don't swim, wade, jetski, waterski or tube in a bloom.
- Shower if exposed to potential bloom.
- Don't consume fish from the lake during blooms.
- Do not use PRIVATE water drawn from the lake during a bloom. Public water supplies have safeguards in place and can be utilized unless you are otherwise notified.

HEALTH EFFECTS

Prolonged exposure to water containing high levels of cyanobacteria through body contact, ingestion, or inhalation, can result in a range of health issues.

Pets may also be impacted by blooms. Their fur can concentrate algae, so they can ingest a large dose of toxins when they groom themselves.

IF CONTACT OCCURS:

- Rinse thoroughly with clean water.
- Seek medical attention if vomiting, nausea, diarrhea, skin, eye, or throat irritation, allergic reactions, or breathing difficulties occur.
- Take care to remove algae from pet fur.

REPORT HEALTH CONCERNS

Contact your physician and local health department if you experience health concerns. For animal exposure, call an emergency veterinary hotline.

HEALTH AGENCY CONTACTS:

Ontario County Public Health Department
(585) 396-4343
NYS Department of Health
harmfulalgae@healthy.ny.gov

WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE

FLOATING DOTS OR CLUMPS



SPIILLED PAINT



PEA SOUP APPEARANCE



SURFACE STREAKS



REDUCE NUTRIENT POLLUTION



MANURE AND FERTILIZERS FROM FARMS ARE SOURCES OF NUTRIENTS



LAWN FERTILIZERS ADD EXCESS NUTRIENTS, WHICH FEED ALGAE



IMPROPERLY FUNCTIONING SEPTIC SYSTEMS ARE SOURCES OF NUTRIENTS



PHOSPHORUS AND NITROGEN ENTER THE LAKE FROM SURROUNDING LANDS, FUELING ALGAL GROWTH

