

Harmful Algal Bloom season will soon be upon us.
The Cayuga County Health Department recommends:

Avoiding blooms in lakes, ponds, and streams because harmful algal blooms can cause health effects in people and animals.



Know it.

It might be a harmful algal bloom if you see:

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



Avoid it.

Always stay away from blooms in lakes, ponds, and streams:

- 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 lake water.
- During a bloom, don't drink, prepare food, cook, or make ice with lake 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 using the form at:

www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/83310.html

Report bloom-related symptoms to: your local health department by email at cchealth@cayugacounty.us or the New York State Department of Health email at harmfulalgae@health.ny.gov

Consider visiting a health care provider if you, your family or animals are experiencing symptoms that might be related to harmful algal bloom exposure. Learn more health.ny.gov/harmfulalgae

