

Monitoring	<p>- What public messaging exists on how states are gathering data? - What monitoring can citizens take part in and What information are they asked for?</p>		<p>No volunteering monitoring program actively managed by the state, but consultants and individual lake groups can conduct their own as desired.</p> <p>State swimming beaches are monitored by DEEP staff (weekly).</p> <p>Further efforts ongoing with EPA R1 (Monitoring and Analysis Focus Team).</p>	<p>- Section on "Recommendations for Monitoring or Advisory Posting" in: http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/environmental/exposure/protocol-cyanobacteria.pdf</p> <p>- Citizens are encouraged to report blooms (including a photo), but not involved with citizen monitoring</p>	<p>State program and volunteers in the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program monitor algal blooms using Secchi disk. Maine does not have any monitoring specific to HABs.</p> <p>We request that volunteers notify Maine DEP when algal blooms decrease Secchi transparencies below 2.0 meters.</p>	<p>Under Identification on DES Cyanobacteria webpage: "You may also collect a sample in a clean container (plastic or glass jar) and bring it to DES (link to directions to DES) to identify. Caution: If collecting a potentially toxic algal sample: Avoid contact with skin. Wear water-proof gloves when sampling and/or immediately wash all areas of the body where water contact has occurred."</p> <p>http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/fp/factsheets/bb/documents/bb-13.pdf</p>	<p>DEC posts information about the programs and how the program that collect blue-green algae data: Citizens in lake communities that have a lake association may be able to participate in the Citizen Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP, http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/81576.html); information about what data is collected is available on DEC's website http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/81849.html - appx 120 lakes sampled 8x per summer for open water blooms and as needed when shoreline blooms observed.</p> <p>DEC monitoring conducted on other lakes: bloom samples collected when blooms observed</p> <p>Citizens not associated with a lake association may submit information about potential blooms using DEC's online form and limited sampling may be authorized under authority of DEC.</p>	N/A	<p>Lake Champlain Committee (LCC), Health and DEC monitor for blooms. Citizens may work with LCC to get trained as a volunteer monitor.</p>
	Protocol/Contacts		<p>By Phone: DPH: 860-509-7758 DEEP: 860-424-3020</p> <p>By Email: algalbloomsCT@ct.gov, deep.algalblooms@ct.gov</p>	<p>By Phone: - MDPH - (617) 624-5757</p> <p>MDPH responds to all received reports of blooms (reports come from state environmental and local health officials, parks staff, residents, and watershed associations). MDPH asks local health dept or individual reporting the bloom to email photos of the bloom before samplers are deployed.</p>	<p>By Phone: - DEP Lakes Staff: 207-287-3901 - Environmental and Occupational Health Program: 866-292-3474 in state.</p> <p>When a bloom is called in from a lake that has not supported chronic algal blooms in the past, DEP staff or VLMP staff will investigate extent and collect water samples for TP & Chl analysis.</p>	<p>By email: sonya.carlson@des.nh.gov or beaches@des.nh.gov</p> <p>By Phone: Cyano hotline: 603-419-0918</p>	<p>DEC: Online: http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/algaereportform.pdf.</p> <p>By Phone: Contact regional DEC office or DEC HAB coordinators.</p> <p>DOH/OPR: blooms observed by beach managers reported by DOH/OPR HAB coordinators in Albany</p> <p>All data reported to any agency shared amongst all agency HAB coordinators</p>	<p>By Phone: Contact RIDEM at (401) 222-6800</p> <p>(By Email: brian.zalewsky@dem.ri.gov or jane.sawyers@dem.ri.gov)</p>	<p>By Phone: 1-800-439-8550 By Email: AHS.VDHBlueGreenAlgae@state.vt.us</p>
Reporting	Outreach/ Instructions		<p>"If you believe that you have observed an algae bloom, follow the guidance listed above and contact your Local Public Health Agency (linked to Public Health Agencies webpage). You may also contact CT Department of Public Health (860-509-7758), or CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (860) 424-3020, or send an email to deep.algalblooms@ct.gov"</p>	<p>Reports requested via phone to MDPH.</p> <p>MDPH asks local health dept or individual reporting the bloom to email photos of the bloom before samplers are deployed.</p>	<p>"If you want to report a bloom, contact the DEP Lakes Staff at 207-287-3901. For information on health effects, contact the Environmental and Occupational Health Program (866-292-3474 in state). Out of State contact The World Health Organization (WHO)."</p>	<p>"You may use the tell-tale signs of cyanobacteria to initially identify its presence in the water, described in the Ecology section below. However, cyanobacteria may only be positively identified to the Genus level by microscopic identification. If you suspect a cyanobacteria bloom is occurring at your lake or pond, please call DES immediately at (603) 271-2457 or beaches@des.nh.gov and we will conduct a site visit. You may also collect a sample in a clean container (plastic or glass jar) and bring it to DES (link to directions to DES) to identify. Caution: If collecting a potentially toxic algal sample: Avoid contact with skin. Wear water-proof gloves when sampling and/or immediately wash all areas of the body where water contact has occurred."</p>	<p>"You are encouraged to include digital photographs as email attachments with the form (close-up, and landscape showing extent and location of bloom). If possible, please include an image from an online mapping application such as Google, Bing or Yahoo Maps, with a marker at the bloom location." (instructions included with on-line reporting form)</p>	<p>"To report a suspicious algae bloom, contact RIDEM at (401) 222-6800"</p>	<p>"To report a bloom to VDH, call 1-800-439-8550 or click the link on our website to send us an email."</p>
Terminating an Advisory/Closure			<p>Health officials may justify lifting a blue-green algae bloom posting if observations meet either or both of the following two criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visual assessment remains at the Category 1 condition for at least two successive and representative observational rounds one week apart - Cell count results of the water column indicate that blue-green algal cell abundance has markedly decreased over at least two successive and representative sampling rounds one week apart and is below 70,000 cells per ml. <p>As the situation requires, health officials may consider additional confirmation through microcystin testing of the water column. As is stated for the above, the water column should be below the threshold for at least two successive and representative sampling rounds one week apart. CT DPH suggests a toxin threshold of 15 ug/l microcystin.</p>	<p>Advisories may be lifted after two successive and representative sampling rounds one week apart demonstrate cell counts or toxin levels below those at which an advisory would be posted.</p> <p>(Approach is similar to that of OR and Australia)</p>	N/A	<p>"When monitoring indicates that cyanobacteria are no longer present at levels that could harm humans or animals, the advisory or warning will be removed."</p> <p>The Beach Program will immediately resample all beaches upon issuing an advisory. The sign will be removed from the area when further samples indicate the concentration of the cyanobacteria species is below 50 percent of a sample.</p>	<p>DEC follows up with all reports received for updates to the status of bloom: Resampled lakes- once visual evidence and/or lab results indicate BGA bloom conditions have dissipated, waterbody removed from DEC notification page Unsampled lakes- original or follow up- waterbodies that have not had an update for >= 4 weeks will be removed from the list on the DEC web page due to lack of information All cases- DEC still advises the public to be aware of blooms because blooms can come and go.</p> <p>DOH/OPR- beach reopened if bloom cleared and MC-LR < 10 (sampling not initiated until bloom has cleared)</p>	<p>Health advisories remain in effect for the remainder of the swimming season (first of November), unless follow-up sampling by a city, town, or third party indicate that the advisory can be lifted. Health Advisories may be lifted after two successive and representative sampling rounds, two weeks apart, demonstrate no evidence of an algal scum or mat and demonstrate cyanobacteria cell counts and toxin levels below threshold concentrations.</p>	<p>Advisory is lifted when water is visually clear and toxins are < 6 ug/L microcystin and 10 ug/L anatoxin</p>

Advisories & Closures Outreach / Disclosure to Public			<p>Posting closure signs at swimming areas and advisory signs at other access points used for public recreation is the primary intervention. Some posting is up to local health director.</p> <p>Further interventions include: - Notifying lake associations - Posting information for public access via the internet or local newspapers via a press release. Include information as to how the public can contact the CT DEEP for the most up-to-date information on the status of the blue-green algae bloom. - In some communities it may also be important to notify local Veterinarians and Physicians and keep them updated on the status of the blue-green algae bloom.</p>	<p>For any Advisory, signage should be posted at (all) water body entry points and should include the following: date of the posting, contact information for the posting authority, language (to be provided or reviewed by MDPH) advising against contact with the water, and a recommendation that pets accidentally entering the water be rinsed.</p> <p>Current advisories are listed on MDPH website: http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph/programs/environmental-health/exposure-topics/beaches-algae/algae-information.html</p>	N/A	<p>"DES will continue to monitor the water and will notify the appropriate parties regarding the results of initial and subsequent testing. Public notification occurs through press releases and the DES website."</p>	<p>DEC posts waterbodies with bloom notifications on its website. The number of new waterbodies with blooms are announced in the Division of Water's weekly listserve email (Making Waves).</p> <p>DOH/OPR regulated beaches posted with signs (and some county DOH press releases) when beaches closed; signs removed or changed to advisory when beach reopened</p>	<p>Updated every year with new information on the year's blooms: http://www.health.ri.gov/publications/datareports/2013CyanobacteriaBloomsInRhodeIsland.pdf</p> <p>Beach closures are also posted on the state Beach Water Quality Information site: https://beaches.health.ri.gov/swim/</p> <p>For materials posted on the state website, see "Advisory Notices Materials" row</p>	<p>Monitoring data are reported on the tracker: https://webmail.vdh.state.vt.us/vtracking/bluegreenalgae/d/</p> <p>Conditions are reported on our website also http://healthvermont.gov/enviro/bg_algae/weekly_status.aspx</p>
Advisory Notices Materials			<p>See Section C of http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/environmental_health/pdf/guidance_to_lhd_for_blue-green_algaeblooms_in_rec_fresh_waters_june_2014.pdf</p>	<p>Signage posted at (all) water body entry points: http://village14.com/files/2012/08/Pages-from-CAUTION-sign_cyanobacteria-2012.pdf</p>	N/A	<p>http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/beaches/graphics/rec-exposure-caption.gif</p> <p>Similar signs available from DEC for posting at non-regulated sites (boat launches, common access points, etc.)</p>	<p>http://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2849/images/sign2.jpg</p> <p>http://www.southkingstownri.com/files/Health%20Advisory%20Barber%20Pond%20Cyanobacteria_ENG.pdf</p>	<p>A letter is sent by HEALTH to town officials with signage to be posted at the point of access. DEM Fish and Wildlife will post if there is a state-owned boat ramp at the lake.</p> <p>http://www.southkingstownri.com/files/Health%20Advisory%20Barber%20Pond%20Cyanobacteria_ENG.pdf</p>	<p>See appendix E: http://healthvermont.gov/enviro/bg_algae/documents/BGA_guide.pdf</p>
Drinking Water Advisories and Outreach				<p>- Conducting drinking water outreach for cyanobacteria via presentations to public water suppliers. - New written outreach materials under review. - Another program working on drinking water actions levels for cyanobacteria (although all Mass. PWS have an Emergency Response Plan which details actions for any water supply emergency).</p>	N/A	<p>http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/dwgb/documents/dwgb-4-15.pdf</p>	<p>No state protocol established. DEC does not provide information to the public about drinking water when waterbodies classified for drinking report blooms. DEC shares data with DOH, which may include information about drinking water in press releases.</p>		<p>Process for managing anatoxin and microcystin detections in finished water samples for public water systems- this document expires in January 2015. A DO NOT DRINK is ordered at anatoxin > 5 ug/L and microcystin at 10 ug/L. The document can be found at http://drinkingwater.vt.gov/wqmonitoring/pdf/practicalgaitoxindetections.pdf</p>
Further Comments					<p>Preliminary screening data indicate that toxic blooms are not a prevalent issue in Maine, but the state wants to be prepared for future bloom situations because changes in frequency and duration of precipitation events coupled with an extended growing season due to early ice-off and later ice-on, might change the types of blooms that occur in the state.</p>				
Websites: HAB Landing Pages	<p>Health Agency</p> <p>Environmental Agency</p>	<p>CDC: http://www.cdc.gov/healthcommunication/toolstemplates/entertainmentd/tips/algalblooms.html</p> <p>EPA: http://www2.epa.gov/nutrient-pollcy-data/cyanobacterial-harmful-algal-blooms-cyanohabs *** http://www2.epa.gov/nutrient-pollution/harmful-algal-blooms</p>	<p>http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/environmental_health/pdf/guidance_to_lhd_for_blue-green_algaeblooms_in_rec_fresh_waters_june_2014.pdf</p> <p>http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?A=2719&Q=510024</p>	<p>http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph/programs/environmental-health/exposure-topics/beaches-algae/</p> <p>DW Only: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/masdep/toxics/sources/cyanobacteria-in-drinking-water.html</p>	N/A	N/A	<p>http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/bluegreenalgae.htm</p> <p>http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/77145.html</p>	<p>http://www.health.ri.gov/healthrisks/poisoning/cyanobacteria/</p> <p>http://www.dem.ri.gov/bart/habs.htm</p>	<p>http://healthvermont.gov/enviro/bg_algae/bgalgae.aspx</p> <p>http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/waterq/lakes/html/lp_cyanobacteria.htm</p>
Public Informational Documents				<p>Flyer: http://neiwpc.org/neiwpc_docs/AlgaeBlooms.pdf</p> <p>Pets: http://neiwpc.org/neiwpc_docs/protectpets.pdf</p>	N/A	<p>Cyanos/Blooms: http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/wmb/documents/wmb-10.pdf</p>	<p>BGA: http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/bluegreenalgae.pdf</p> <p>Dogs: http://www.seagrant.sunysb.edu/btide/pdfs/HABsBrochure0814.pdf</p>	<p>Pets: http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/bnates/agricult/pdf/algaeostr.pdf</p> <p>Waterbody Management: http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/water/quality/pdf/algafact.pdf</p> <p>Cyanos/Blooms: http://www.url.edu/ce/wq/w/Publications/DEM_Cyanobacteria_%20fact%20sheet.pdf</p>	<p>BGA/Blooms: http://healthvermont.gov/enviro/bg_algae/documents/BGA_guide.pdf</p> <p>Cyanos: http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/waterq/lakes/docs/lp_cyanobacteria_basic_information.pdf</p> <p>Reporting: http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/waterq/lakes/docs/lp_cyanobacteria_%20fact%20sheet.pdf</p> <p>Lake Champlain: http://www.lakechamplaincommittee.org/fileadmin/files/Publications/2014_LCC_-_Flier_on_Distinguishing_Blue_Green_Algae_from_other_Lake_Phenomena.pdf</p>
Tracker/Map Site		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<p>http://www2.des.state.nh.us/WaterShed_BeachMaps/WaterShed_BeachMaps.aspx</p>	<p>http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/83310.html</p>	<p>https://beaches.health.ri.gov/swim/</p>	<p>https://webmail.vdh.state.vt.us/vtracking/bluegreenalgae/d/</p>

Contact			Internal: Stewart.chute@ct.gov, Charles.lee@ct.gov Public: algalbloomsCT@ct.gov, deep.algalblooms@ct.gov	Internal: Michael Celona, Algae Project Coordinator - Mike.Celona@state.ma.us Public: MDPH - (617) 624-5757	Internal: Linda Bacon - Linda.C.Bacon@maine.gov Public: DEP Lakes Staff - (207) 287-3901	Internal: sonya.carlson@des.nh.gov Public: beaches@des.nh.gov	Internal: karen.stainbrook@dec.ny.gov Public: dowinfo@dec.ny.gov ; harmfulalgae@health.state.ny.us	Internal: Robert.Vanderslice@health.ri.gov, brian.zalewsky@dem.ri.gov, jane.sawyers@dem.ri.gov Public: Robert.Vanderslice@health.ri.gov, brian.zalewsky@dem.ri.gov, jane.sawyers@dem.ri.gov	Internal: Public: 1-800-439-8550 (in state), 1-802-863-7220 (out of state), AHS.VDHBlueGreenAlgae@state.vt.us
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