
WHAT TO DO IF YOU COME ACROSS A HAB?

1. Stay out! You cannot identify a toxic bloom event based on just the texture or color of the mat. The only way to know if the mat is toxic is to sample and test the water. **WHEN IN DOUBT, STAY OUT!**

2. Report it! When you come across a HAB that you believe could be toxic, please contact South Dakota DANR (1-800-438-3367). If you believe you are experiencing symptoms from a toxic HAB event, wash the area of skin that came in contact with the water and seek medical attention immediately.

Symptoms apply to both humans and pets and can include but are not limited to; rash, headache, abdominal pain, dry cough, diarrhea, vomiting and nausea, and irritation in the eyes, nose and/or throat.



Contacts and Links

For more information on HABs
<https://danr.sd.gov/Conservation/WatershedProtection/HAB.aspx>

EPA:
<https://www.epa.gov/cyanoHabs>

SDDOH:
<https://doh.sd.gov/diseases/infectious/diseasefacts/AlgalToxins.aspx>

CDC:
<https://www.cdc.gov/habs/index.html>

Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222



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HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND RECREATION



WHEN IN DOUBT, STAY OUT!

Keep you and your family
safe while recreating in the
waters of South Dakota

What are Harmful Algal Blooms?

A harmful algal bloom (HAB) occurs when toxin producing algae grow excessively in a body of water. In South Dakota, HABs are typically produced by blue-green algae, a primitive photosynthetic algae also known as cyanobacteria. Blue-green algae are capable of producing toxins that can be harmful to people and fatal to pets and livestock. In South Dakota, harmful algal blooms typically occur during the warm summer months in nutrient enriched lakes and ponds.

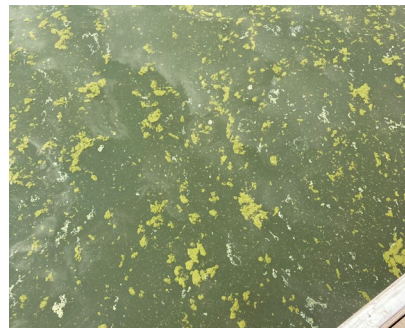


WHAT DO HABs NORMALLY LOOK LIKE?

STRIATIONS



CLUMPS



Aquatic Vegetation Mistaken for a HAB Event

DECAYING PLANT MATTER



DUCKWEED



