

Algal Bloom Notification Guidance:

1. Identification of potential Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)
 - a. Familiarize yourself with non-toxic algae and plants vs. blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) that cause HABs.
 - i. Reference the PDF titled “Identifying HABs”.
2. Reporting
 - a. If possible, take picture of the area of concern. Landscape and close-ups are extremely helpful.
 - b. Fill out the “USACE LRN Algal Bloom Reporting Form” with as much information as you can and submit it as soon as possible.
 - c. Email the form and pictures to all the following USACE Personnel:
 - i. Water Quality Team
 1. Primary POC: Sarah Pedrick, sarah.d.pedrick@usace.army.mil, 615-390-2146
 2. Secondary POC: Mark Campbell, mark.d.campbell@usace.army.mil, 615-390-2173
 - ii. District Operations Section (Natural Resources) Coordinator
 1. Primary POC: Scott Fanning, scott.fanning@usace.army.mil, 615-736-7831
 2. Secondary POC: Daniel Clark, daniel.r.clark@usace.army.mil, 615-736-5116
3. Public FAQs
 - a. How’s the water quality?
 - i. All LRN reservoirs have relatively good water quality and meet or exceed State standards for dissolved oxygen. We have a Water Quality Team that monitors water quality at all reservoirs throughout the year.
 - b. Is the water safe to swim in?
 - i. Generally, the answer to this is yes unless the State or USACE has closed an area (E. coli, HAB, etc.).
 - c. Are HABs a concern at the LRN reservoirs?
 - i. To date, the LRN has not detected a HAB in our waterways. While none have been detected, we recognize the growing concern over algal blooms and the Water Quality Team collects data to monitor and assess trends. Blue-green algae is naturally occurring, and most species do not produce cyanotoxins.



IDENTIFYING A HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM (HAB)

This quick guide provides a visual comparison of appearance and color and odor that can be helpful in distinguishing non-toxic green algae and aquatic plants from potentially toxic cyanobacteria blooms or harmful algal blooms (HABs).

Non-toxic Algae & Plants

Cyanobacteria/HAB

APPEARANCE



Rooted Plants



Floating Plants



Plant-like Algae



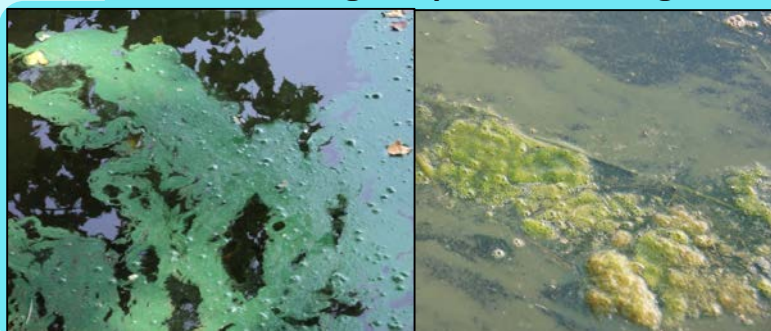
Filamentous Algae



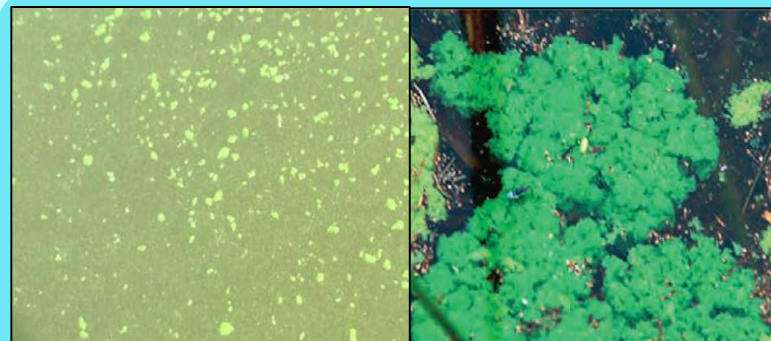
Paint or Soup



Scum, Bubbling or Spit-like Floating Foam



Lettuce or Chopped Grass



Spires



Mats



Blobs



Non-toxic Algae & Plants

Cyanobacteria/HAB

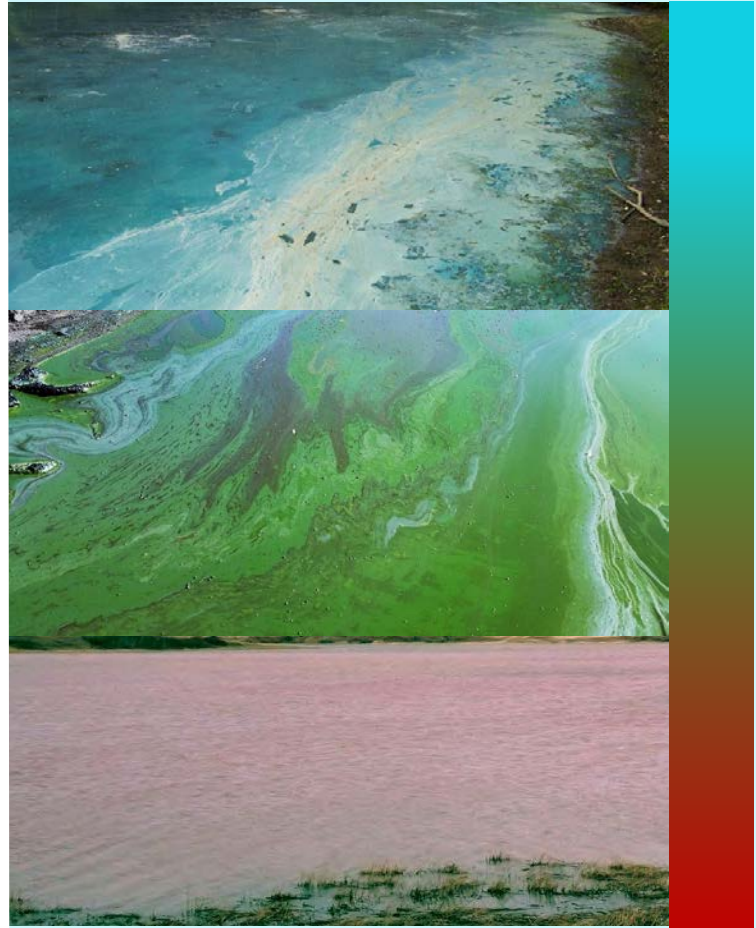
COLOR



Algae and aquatic plants are usually green but can appear yellow or brown as they die down.



Cyanobacteria get their name from their blue-green pigment but blooms can often look green, blue-green, green-brown, or red.



ODOR



Algae and aquatic plants are usually neutral or leafy in scent, but when dying or dead smell musty/rotting.



Cyanobacteria blooms can have a distinctive smell, sometimes described as gasoline, septic or fishy.

Have you seen a HAB?



Report HABs online! <http://mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs/do/bloomreport.html>



Or call 1(844) 729-6466



Find out more on the California HABs Portal
<http://mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs>

Need more help with identification?

<http://mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs/resources/field.html>

USACE LRN Algal Bloom Reporting Form

Please provide information about the potential cyanobacteria algae bloom that you observed. Information can be entered into this electronic form or printed and filled out.

Please save and email a completed copy of this form to sarah.d.pedrick@usace.army.gov, mark.d.campbell@usace.army.gov, geoffery.s.fanning@usace.army.mil, and daniel.r.clark@usace.army.mil.

You are encouraged to include photographs as additional email attachments (close-ups and landscapes).

Contact Information:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Algal Bloom Information:

Date of Observation: _____ Time of Observation: _____

Waterbody: _____ Coordinates (DD): Lat: _____ Long: _____

Approximate Square Feet: _____ Color: _____

Description (Is the potential bloom near a dock, beach, center of lake, embayment, etc.? What does it look like (paint spill, bubbles, mats, blobs, etc.?)