



Reporting a Cyanobacteria Bloom

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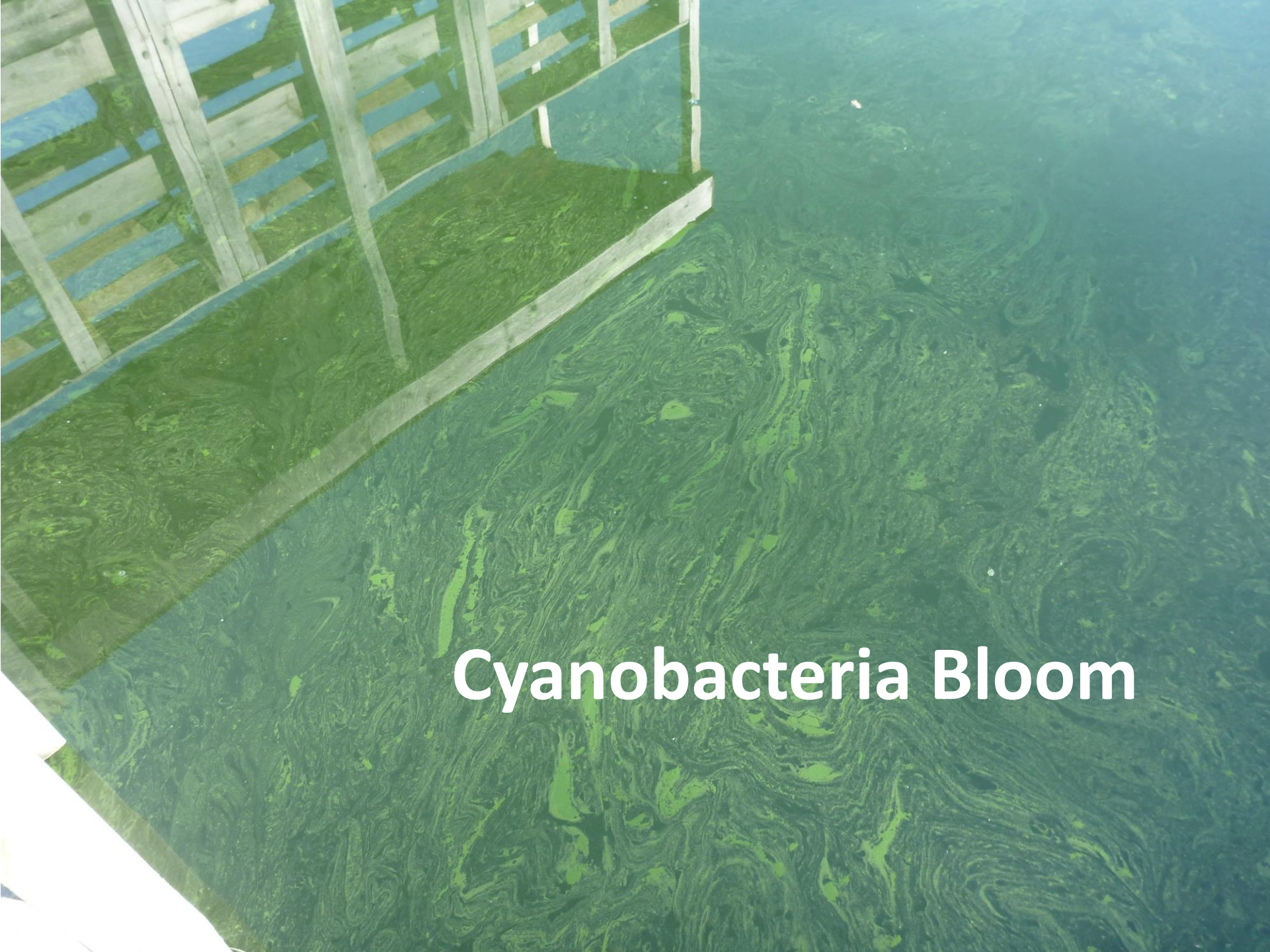




Cyanobacteria Bloom

Cyanobacteria Bloom





Cyanobacteria Bloom

Filamentous Algae



Brown Algae

07.01.2015 12

Duckweed



An aerial photograph of a pond. The water is a deep, dark green color, indicating a high concentration of algae or cyanobacteria. There are several large, irregular patches of bright green duckweed floating on the surface. The pond is surrounded by a concrete or paved area, and some structures are visible in the background. The word "Mixed" is written in large, bold, black letters at the top center of the image.

Mixed

Cyanobacteria

**Duckweed &
Filamentous?**

Why is it Important to Report a Cyanobacteria Bloom?

- Allow us (Agency) to track geographical distribution of blooms
(What's conditions might be contributing to blooms)
- Track trends (within a lake or statewide)
- Follow-up:
 - Determine if toxins are present

Important for public health!!!!!!



Illinois EPA HAB
Coordinator

Teri Holland
217-782-3362

Statewide
Coordinator: **Greg Ratliff**217-782-3362
Illinois EPA, DWPC, SWS #15 greg.ratliff@illinois.gov
1021 North Grand Ave. East, P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

Regional
Coordinators:



Northeastern

Holly Hudson 312-454-0400
hhudson@cmap.illinois.gov

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60606

Lake County

Alana Bartolai 847-377-8030
abartolai2@lakecountyil.gov

Lake County Health Department (LCHD)
500 W. Winchester Road, Unit #102, Libertyville, IL 60048

Southern


Tyler Carpenter 618-997-9351
tylercarpenter@greateregypt.org

Greater Egypt Regional Planning & Development
Commission (Greater Egypt)
3000 W. DeYoung St., Suite 800B-3, Marion, IL 62959




Reporting a Harmful Algal Bloom





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If you suspect a blue-green algal bloom on your lake or on a public lake you've visited, you can report it to the Illinois EPA. Complete a [Bloom Report Form](#) . (**Google Chrome users:** You may need to download the form first before opening it. Right-click the link and select "Save link as..." from the menu.) The form can also be obtained from the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) coordinators listed below.

Fill out as much of the form as possible. Take two photographs of the bloom. One photo should be a close-up of the algal bloom or scum, and the other photo should include the surrounding landscape to help identify the location of the bloom or scum on the lake.

Electronic copies of the photos and form should be submitted to the Illinois EPA at EPA.HAB@illinois.gov  and, if you are a volunteer in the VLMP, your regional VLMP coordinator.

Note: Illinois EPA will review all forms submitted; however, the ability to initiate follow-up activities will be dependent on time and resources of the Illinois EPA at the time of the submittal. Priority will be given to publicly-owned lakes.

- [Alana Bartolai](#)  Lake County Health Department
(Lake County)
- [Holly Hudson](#)  Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
(Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, McHenry, and Will Counties)
- [Tyler Carpenter](#)  Greater Egypt Regional Planning and Development Commission
(Alexander, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union, White, and Williamson Counties)
- [Greg Ratliff](#)  Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
(Any County)



Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Bureau of Water • 1021 North Grand Avenue East • P.O. Box 19276 • Springfield • Illinois • 62794-9276

Bloom Report Form

Please provide information about the potential blue-green algae bloom observed. This form must be typewritten or printed legibly. This form may be completed manually or online using Adobe Reader and saved to your computer. Please email a completed copy of this form to EPA.HAB@illinois.gov.

Include at least two digital photographs (one close up and one landscape photo to show the surroundings) as email attachments.

Note: Illinois EPA will review all forms submitted. As staff and resources allow, monitoring and follow-up response action may be initiated with priority given to publicly owned lakes.

Waterbody Information

Waterbody Name:

Lake Code (if known):

County:

Water Type:

Water Flow:

Waterbody Used for (select all that apply):

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Residential Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooling Water |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drinking Water Supply | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquaculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Is the lake publicly owned? Yes No Unknown Are Digital Photos Attached? Yes No

GPS coordinates in Decimal Degrees (if other, please specify):

Latitude (Decimal N 00.000) GPS Measured

Longitude (Decimal W 00.000) Google Earth Other:

Report Completed By

Name

Organization:

Title:

Phone:

Email:

Are you a VLMP volunteer? Yes No**Bloom Description**

Date Bloom Observed:

Estimated Size of the bloom (sq. ft.)

Describe the bloom location (e.g. center of lake, boat dock, beach, etc.): The box below will expand as needed

Describe any color(s) you see in the bloom: The box below will expand as needed

Describe any odor(s) associated with the bloom (e.g. septic, rotten, fishy, earthy, etc.): The box below will expand as needed

Is there an accumulation of algae at the surface? Yes No Uncertain

Note: algae at the surface can look like grass clippings, green/blue thick foam, spilled paint.

Is bloom near a public beach, boat ramp or marina? Yes No UnknownIs bloom near a public water supply intake? Yes No Unknown

Are you aware of any human or animal illness that occurred due to bloom exposure (including fish kills)? Yes No

Sampling Information

Were samples taken? Yes No

Do you know if other water quality information is available? (please specify)

Attach a File

Save File with New Name

Print Form

Submit by Email

Agency Use Only

Action taken, if any:

CYANOBACTERIA MONITORING COLLABORATIVE

THREE COORDINATED MONITORING PROJECTS TO
LOCATE AND UNDERSTAND HARMFUL
CYANOBACTERIA

[GET INFORMED](#)

[GET INVOLVED](#)

[GET IN TOUCH](#)

We work with citizen scientists, trained water professionals, and the general public to find and study cyanobacteria in waterbodies.



GET INVOLVED

Check out bloomWatch, cyanoScope, and cyanoMonitoring to find ways you can start monitoring cyanobacteria.



bloomWatch App

Crowdsourcing to find and report potential cyanobacteria blooms

Engaging the public to report when and where potential cyanobacteria blooms appear.

[LEARN MORE](#)



cyanoScope

Mapping cyanobacteria one slide at a time

Engaging trained citizen scientists and professional water quality managers to understand where and when cyanobacteria species occur.

[LEARN MORE](#)



cyanoMonitoring

Monitoring cyanobacteria populations over time

Engaging professionals and trained citizen scientists to track seasonal patterns of cyanobacteria.

[LEARN MORE](#)



HOW DOES THE BLOOMWATCH APP WORK?



1. Download the app

Install bloomWatch app on your smartphone or tablet

[DOWNLOAD FOR IOS](#)

[DOWNLOAD FOR ANDROID](#)

[GET METHODS](#)



2. Learn what to look for

Get familiar with the appearance of cyanobacteria blooms

[SEE REPORTED BLOOMS](#)



3. Report what you found

Document blooms with the app

1) use bloomWatch app to take good photos of potential blooms, 2) submit your photos to the project, 3) send info to the relevant state agency

NOTE: Avoid bloom and don't touch the water

NOTE: Submissions through bloomWatch do not constitute a formal report to authorities

NOTE: Images submitted via bloomWatch will be used only for citizen science purposes and will not be sold or distributed to advertisers or other entities

cyanos.org/bloomwatch

CYANOBACTERIA MONITORING COLLABORATIVE

QUICK START GUIDE



bloomWatch

OBJECTIVE:

Photographically document when and where potential cyanobacteria blooms are occurring for further verification.

WHAT YOU NEED: The only tools required for this program is a smartphone and its accompanying bloomWatch App. IOS phones must have version 7.1 or newer, and Androids must have version 4.0 or newer.

VISIT CYANOS.ORG/BLOOMWATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION.

GET STARTED





Welcome to bloomWatch!

2.8

Crowdsourcing to find and report potential cyanobacteria blooms

What are blooms? +

What does this App do? +

Who are we? +

How to proceed: +

How will we use this data? +

Name:

Teri holland

Email:

Teri.holland@illinois.gov

Alias:

THoll

* This is a required username that will be publicly displayed next to any submissions you make using this app. Your name and email will not be shared publicly.

Waterbody Name:

Illinois test

LOOKUP PREVIOUS WATERBODY

SAVE DATA

Screen 1

Introductory/ Welcome

Verizon 3:46 PM

bloomWatch!

INFORMATION

Date:

Town:

State:

Does waterbody have public access for boating, fishing, or bathing?

Verizon 3:47 PM

bloomWatch!

Weather conditions:

Surface conditions:

Bloom size or extent:

General Comments:

Screen 2 Information

Larger than a football field
 Between a football field & tennis court
 Between a tennis court & a sedan
 Smaller than a sedan

*Must fill in each field, even if N/A

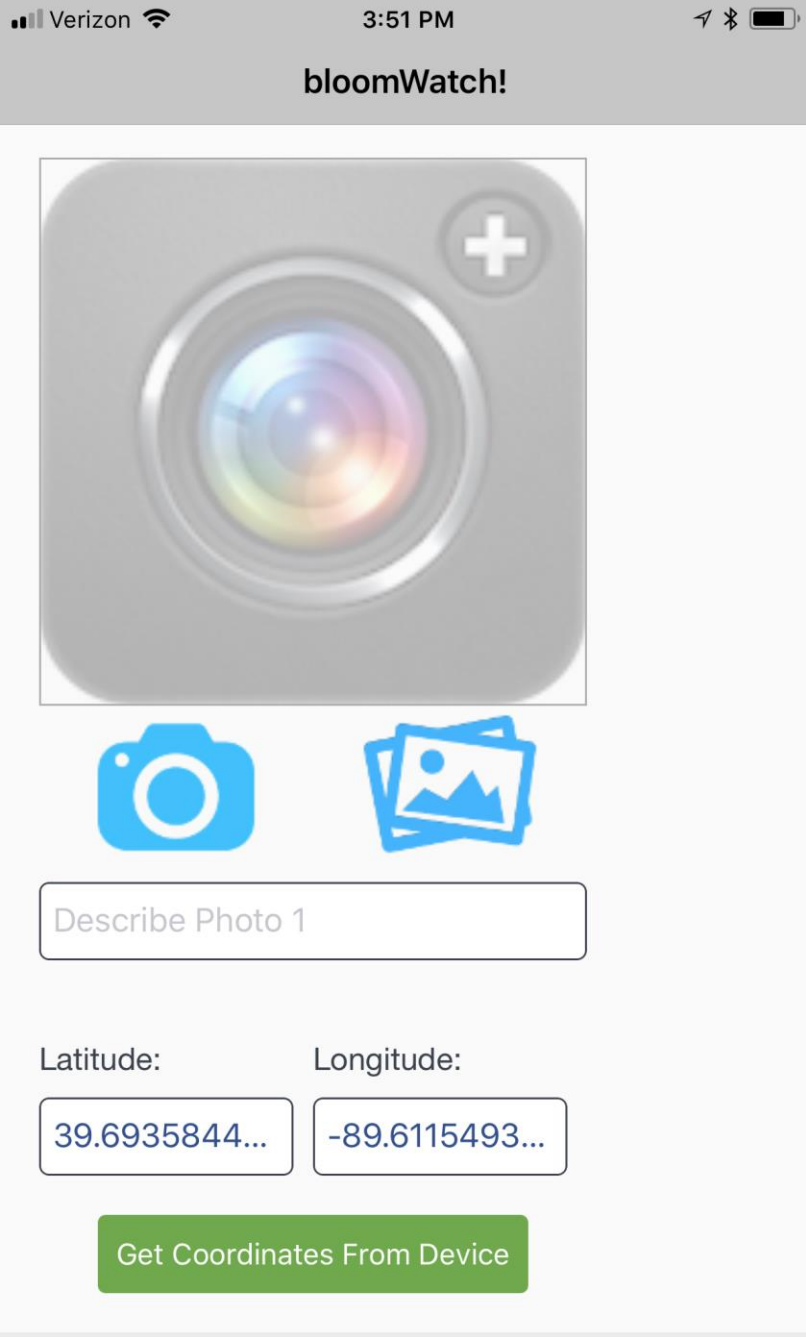


Photo 1: Attempt to capture the areal extent of the bloom. Include some shoreline and skyline.

Photo 2: Image of water surface taken from a standing position 10 - 30 ft. away.

Photo 3: Close up photo of the bloom from 3 ft. away or less.

Screen 3

Photos

Submit

SUBMIT

Waterbody Name: Illinois test

Date: 03/21/2018

When you press "Submit" your data will be uploaded automatically to our database on CitSci.org, but your personal information (name and email) will be hidden. Based on the location of your submission, a notification email to your state contact will pop up. Please hit send.

On Android devices, select EMAIL as the choice for your submissions.

[SUBMIT DATA](#)

Interested in being more involved and learning more about cyanobacteria? Take a look at some of them under the microscope and report your findings through our sister project:

[cyanoScope](#)

Once the waterbody information and pictures have been submitted, you can delete the waterbody from your device to save space. Simply select the waterbody you wish to delete from the list below and click the "DELETE



Introduction



Information



Photo Capture



Submit

Screen 4

Review & Submit



- Data goes to database on CitSci.org
- Personal information hidden
- A notification email to your state contact (ME) will pop up. Hit SEND

- View Data
- Submit Data
- Resources
- Media
- Feedback
- Questions
- Analyses
- Forum
- Wiki

- Observations
- Map
- Locations

Search:

Show entries

Date	Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Photo	Options
December 2, 2017	Province lake (NH)	43.693058013916	-71.00798034668		View
November 28, 2017	Province Lake (NH)	43.6847691	-70.9991816		View
November 23, 2017	Province Lake (NH)	43.6847699	-70.9991839		View

Observation Details



[To Project Profile](#)



Observation Details

Date:	December 2nd, 2017
Recorder:	craig
Location Details:	Province lake (NH)
Latitude:	43.693058013916
Longitude:	-71.00798034668
Accuracy:	5.0
Survey Type:	Point
Project:	bloomWatch
Data Source:	craig
Comments:	Remick rd

Photos



Current Numbers:

- 20 States
- 208 iOS users
- 280 Android users
- 137 CitSci Members
- 35 Reports



- NH - 9
- MA - 8
- CT - 6
- CA - 5



THANK YOU