



# BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

## REPORTING JUNE 18 - JUNE 24, 2021

Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.

A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range. Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to rapidly changing environmental conditions or satellite inconsistencies (i.e., wind, rain, temperature or stage).

**Caloosahatchee Estuary**  
June 11, 2021

Satellite imagery for the Caloosahatchee river and estuary has been obscured by cloud cover for the past two weeks, with the most recent usable image being from 6/11.

**Lake Okeechobee**  
June 11, 2021

Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee has been obscured by cloud cover for the past two weeks, with the most recent usable image being from 6/11.

**St. Lucie Estuary**  
June 11, 2021

Satellite imagery for the St. Lucie river and estuary has been obscured by cloud cover for the past two weeks, with the most recent usable image being from 6/11.

**St. Johns**  
June 11, 2021

Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River has been heavily obscured by cloud cover, with the most recent usable image being from 6/11.

### SUMMARY

There were 51 reported site visits in the past seven days (6/18 - 6/24), with 51 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at 28 of the sites.

On 6/22 and 6/24, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected water samples at 13 locations in the area near Port Manatee in Tampa Bay in response to the Piney Point emergency release. Results for the 6/22 samples were all non-detect for cyanotoxins. Cyanotoxin results for the 6/24 samples are still pending. For daily updates and sampling data results, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.org/PineyPointUpdate](https://ProtectingFloridaTogether.org/PineyPointUpdate).

On 6/21, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected samples at Lake Okeechobee - Pahokee Marina Boat Ramp; C43 Canal - S77 Structure (upstream); and C-43 Canal - S79 (upstream). The Lake Okeechobee - Pahokee Marina Boat Ramp sample had no dominant algal taxa and no cyanotoxins detected. The C43 Canal - S77 Structure (upstream) sample was dominated by *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* and had no cyanotoxins detected. The C-43 Canal - S79 (upstream) sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 2.2 parts per billion (ppb) of microcystins detected.

On 6/21, DEP staff collected samples at Lake Okeechobee - S308C (lakeside); C-44 Canal -140 Meters North of S308C Structure; Sabal Palm Lake - Adjacent to LWDD L-49 Canal; and Lake Willisara - Center. The Lake Okeechobee - S308C (lakeside) and C-44 Canal -140 Meters North of S308C Structure samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 130 ppb and 36 ppb of microcystins detected, respectively. The Sabal Palm Lake - Adjacent to LWDD L-49 Canal sample was dominated by *Chlamydomonas sp.* and had no cyanotoxins detected. The Lake Willisara - Center sample was dominated by *Microcystis sp.* and had a trace level (0.29 ppb) of microcystins detected.

On 6/22 and 6/23, SFWMD staff collected samples at Lake Okeechobee at the following stations. Cyanotoxin results are included in parentheses following each station name: KISSRO.0 (non-detect); LZ2 (trace, 0.77 ppb); NES191 (31 ppb); L001 (7.8 ppb); NES135 (21 ppb); NCENTER (4.4 ppb); EASTSHORE (81 ppb); L004 (5.9 ppb); L008 (1.8 ppb); L005 (non-detect); POLESOUT (trace, 0.51 ppb); POLESOUT1 (6.9 ppb); POLESOUT2 (trace, 0.34 ppb); POLESOUT3 (6.3 ppb); KBARSE (31 ppb); CLV10A (non-detect); LZ40 (11 ppb); PALMOUT (non-detect); PALMOUT1 (non-detect); PALMOUT2 (4.7 ppb); PALMOUT3 (8.4 ppb); LZ30 (non-detect); POLES3 (non-detect); RITTAE2 (non-detect); LZ25A (non-detect); L007 (non-detect); L006 (non-detect); and PELBAY3 (non-detect). *Microcystis aeruginosa* was the dominant taxon in all samples with microcystin levels greater than 1 ppb. The sites with the highest microcystin concentrations were primarily in the northeast quadrant of the lake.

On 6/22, Lee County staff collected a sample from the Caloosahatchee River - Alva Boat Ramp. The sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had a trace level (0.66 ppb) of microcystins detected.

On 6/22 and 6/23, DEP staff collected samples at Buck Creek Canal - Bay Tree Drive, Lake Melva and Lake Sebring. The Buck Creek Canal - Bay Tree Drive sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected. The Lake Melva sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had no cyanotoxins detected. The Lake Sebring sample was dominated by *Dolichospermum circinale* and had no cyanotoxins detected.

On 6/23 and 6/24, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected samples at Blue Cypress Lake - Center and Stick Marsh - Center. The Blue Cypress Lake - Center sample was dominated by *Microcystis wesenbergii* and no cyanotoxins were detected. The Stick Marsh - Center sample results are still pending.

On 6/24, SFWMD staff collected samples at Lake Okeechobee - CULV10A and the C44 Canal - Timer Powers Park. Analysis results are still pending.

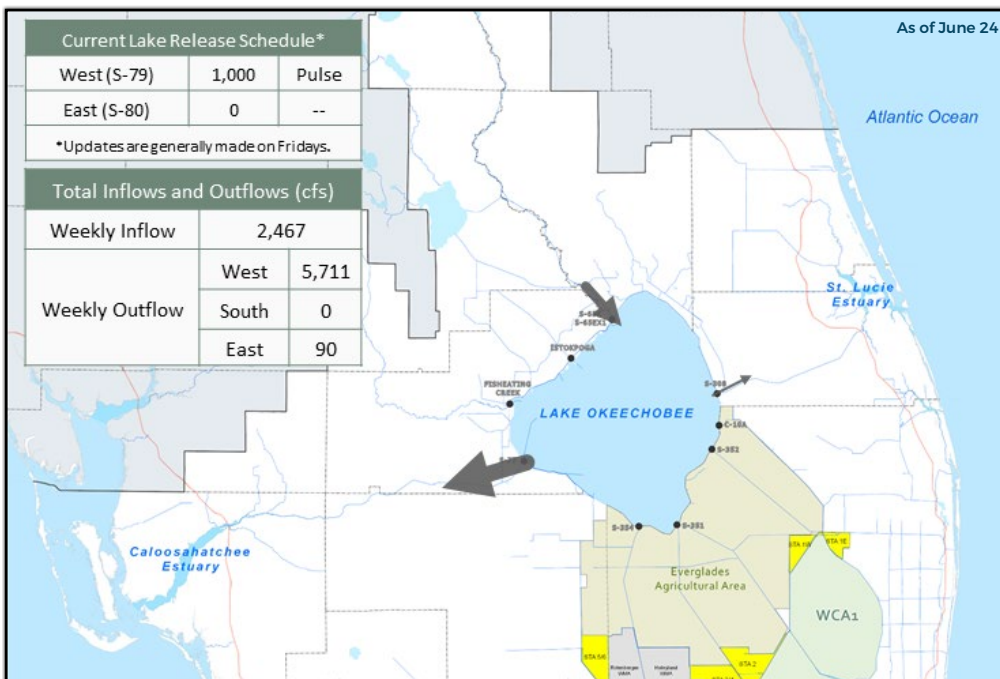
On 6/24, DEP staff collected samples at Caloosahatchee River - Labelle Bridge; Caloosahatchee River - South Olga Drive; Orange River - Manatee Park; Sampson River - end of SW 136th St.; C-51 Canal - Summit Blvd.; C-51 Canal - Forest Hill Blvd.; C-51 Canal - upstream of S-155; and C-51 Canal - Military Trail. Analytical results for these samples are still pending.

**Last Week**

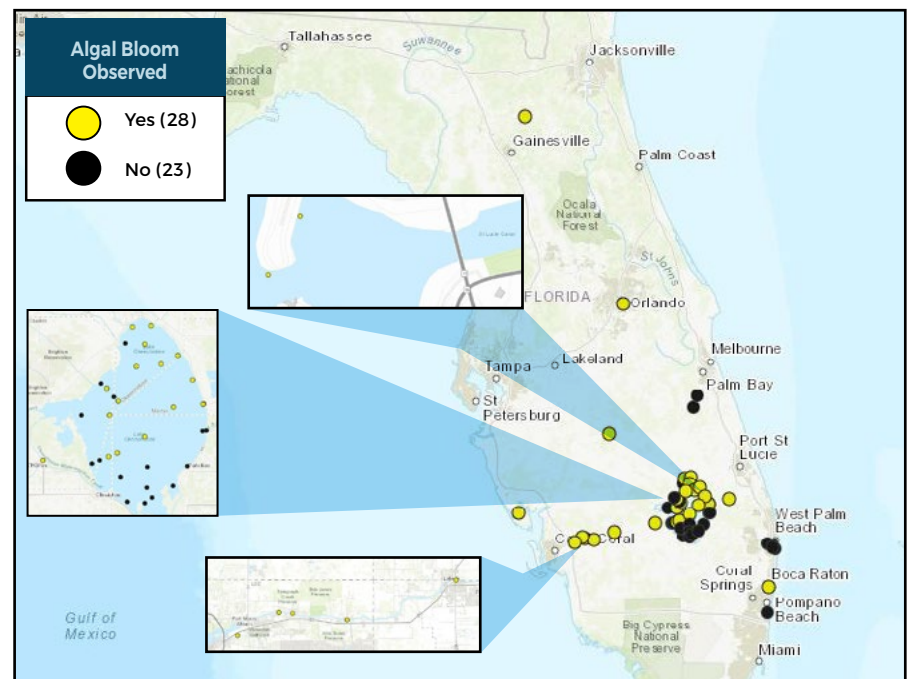
On 6/17, DEP staff collected samples at Caloosahatchee River - Barron Park Labelle; Caloosahatchee River - Sebastian Court Canal; and Caloosahatchee River - South Olga Drive. All three samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had non-detect, non-detect and a trace level (0.82 ppb) of microcystins detected, respectively. No other cyanotoxins were detected in the samples.

This is a high-level summary of the sampling events for the reported week. For all field visit and analytical result details, please refer to the complete algal bloom map with data table by clicking the "Field and Lab Details" Quick Link from the Algal Bloom Dashboard. Different types of blue-green algal bloom species can look different and have different impacts. However, regardless of species, many types of blue-green algae can produce toxins that can make you or your pets sick if swallowed or possibly cause skin and/or eye irritation due to contact. We advise staying out of water where algae is visibly present as specks or mats or where water is discolored pea-green, blue-green or brownish-red. Additionally, pets or livestock should not come into contact with the algal bloom-impacted water or the algal bloom material or fish on the shoreline.

### LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



### SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



### REPORTS FROM HOTLINE



### REPORT PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES

**HUMAN ILLNESS**

Florida Poison Control Centers can be reached 24/7 at 800-222-1222 (DOH provides grant funding to the Florida Poison Control Centers)

**OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS**

**CONTACT DOH**  
(DOH county office)  
[FloridaHealth.gov/all-county-locations.html](https://FloridaHealth.gov/all-county-locations.html)

### REPORT ALGAL BLOOMS

**SALTWATER BLOOM**

- Observe stranded wildlife or a fish kill
- Information about red tide and other saltwater algal blooms

**CONTACT FWC**  
800-636-0511 (fish kills)  
888-404-3922 (wildlife Alert)  
[MyFWC.com/RedTide](https://MyFWC.com/RedTide)

**FRESHWATER BLOOM**

- Observe an algal bloom in a lake or freshwater river
- Information about blue-green algal blooms

**CONTACT DEP**  
855-305-3903 (to report freshwater blooms)  
[FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom](https://FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom)

Learn more about Florida's Algal Bloom Monitoring and Response visit our [Water Quality website](https://WaterQuality.floridadep.gov) to check the current status and to receive updates.

PROTECTING TOGETHER  
[ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](https://ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov)