



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING APRIL 12 - APRIL 18, 2024

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
April 18, 2024

The satellite imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary from 4/18 shows scattered low to moderate bloom potential from the upper estuary down to the Matlacha Pass area.

Lake Okeechobee
April 18, 2024

The satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee from 4/18 shows low to moderate bloom potential on approximately 40% of the lake, with the most condensed bloom potential in the northern half of the lake.

St. Lucie Estuary
April 18, 2024

The satellite imagery for the St. Lucie Estuary from 4/18 shows no visible bloom potential.

St. Johns River
April 18, 2024

The satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 4/18 is partially obscured by cloud cover but shows highly scattered low to high bloom potential from Lake George downstream to the city of Jacksonville.

SUMMARY

There were 21 reported site visits in the past seven days with 21 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at 14 of the sites.

On 4/15 - 4/18, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected 15 harmful algal bloom (HAB) response samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

Lake Harris - East Central Shore: *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Botryococcus braunii* co-dominant; no cyanotoxins detected.

Scott Lake - West: *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Botryococcus braunii* co-dominant; trace level [0.55 parts per billion (ppb)] microcystins detected.

Lake Arnold - North Shore: *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*; trace level (0.27 ppb) anatoxin-a detected.

St. Lucie Canal - 96th Street Bridge: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

St. Lucie River - at Palm City Bridge: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

St. Lucie Canal - Army Corps Campground: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

St. Lucie River - at Four Rivers: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

St. Lucie River - Harborage: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

Lake Conine - Boat Ramp: *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* co-dominant; an estimated 1.4 ppb microcystins detected.

Lake Echo - Northwest: *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Woronichinia naegeliana* co-dominant; no cyanotoxins detected.

Lake Thonotosassa - Center: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; an estimated 1.1 ppb microcystins detected.

Lake Marian - Pavilion: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 3.1 ppb microcystins detected.

Results for samples collected at **Blanton Lake - South Lobe**, **Dowling Lake - Off Dock** and **Weeki Wachee River - Richard Drive** are pending.

On 4/15 - 4/16, South Florida Water Management District staff collected four HAB response samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

C43 Canal - S77 (upstream): *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.

C44 Canal - S308C: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 3.1 ppb microcystins detected.

L8 Canal - S5AW (upstream): *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.

Lake Okeechobee - Pahokee Marina: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 2.4 ppb microcystins detected.

On 4/16 - 4/17, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected one HAB response sample at **Lake Yale - Center:** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* co-dominant; 0.77 ppb microcystins detected. Additionally, one routine HAB monitoring sample was collected at **Lake Washington - Center**.

Results for the **Lake Washington - Center** sample are pending due to a shipping delay.

Last Week

On 4/11, DEP staff collected 5 HAB response samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

Caloosahatchee River at Walpole Canal: *Sphaerospermopsis aphanizomenoides*; no cyanotoxins detected.

Caloosahatchee River at Palaco Grande Canal: *Sphaerospermopsis aphanizomenoides*; no cyanotoxins detected.

Caloosahatchee River at Miramar Canal: *Sphaerospermopsis aphanizomenoides*; no cyanotoxins detected.

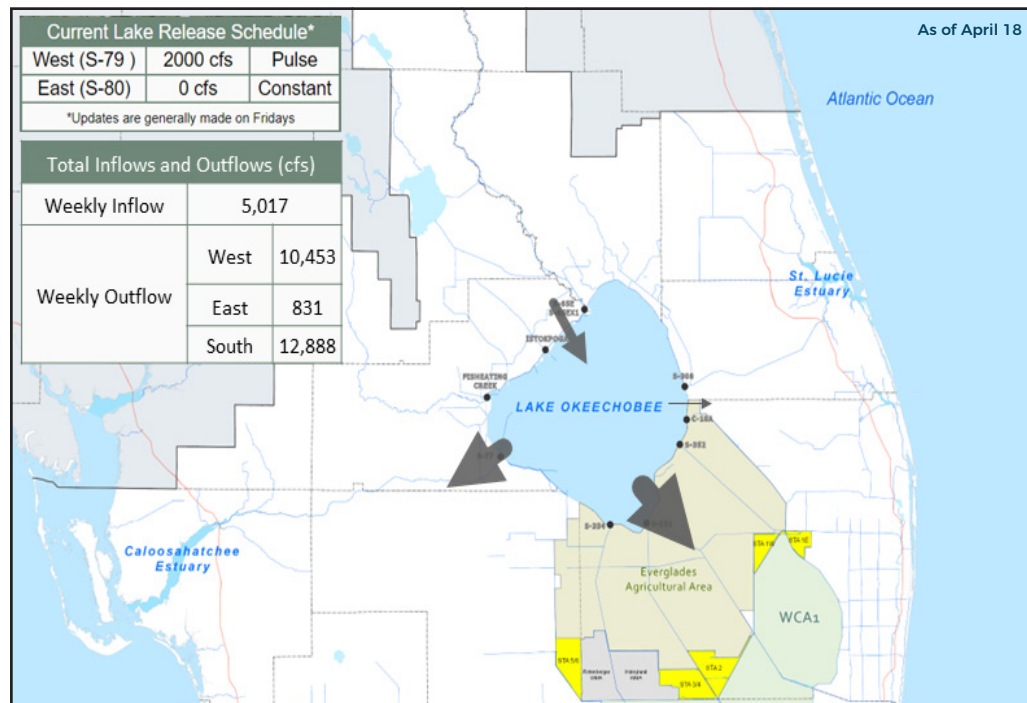
Whiskey Creek - Winkler Road Canal: *Rhizoclonium crassipellitum*; no cyanotoxins detected.

Little Dear Lake - Southwest Lobe: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.

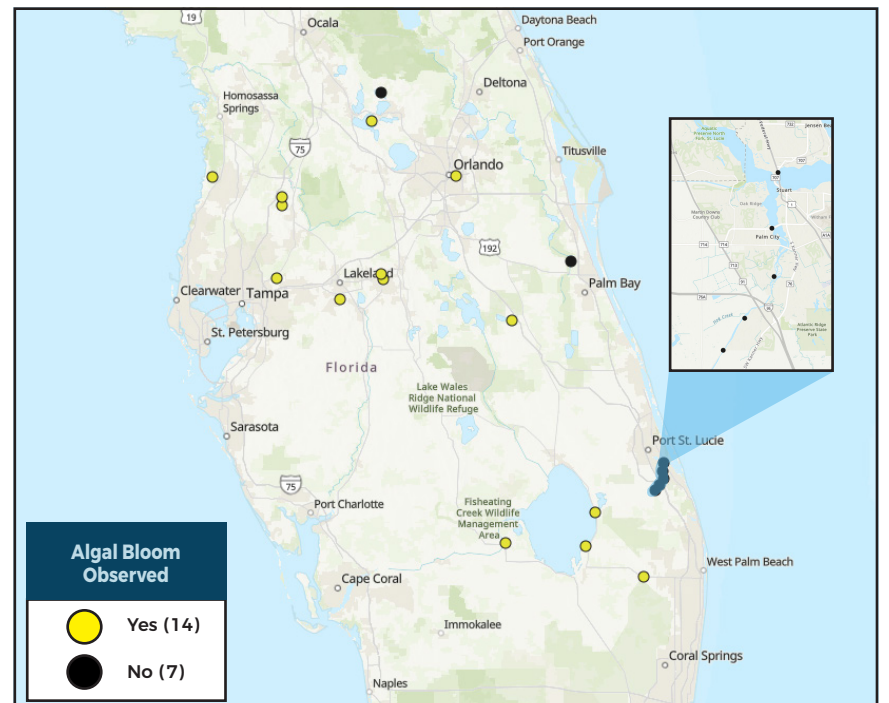
Results for completed analyses are available at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom.

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 algal bloom-impacted water or with algal bloom material or fish on the shoreline.

LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



SIGN-UP FOR UPDATES

To receive personalized email notifications about blue-green algae and red tide, visit

PROTECTING TOGETHER
ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov.

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

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

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