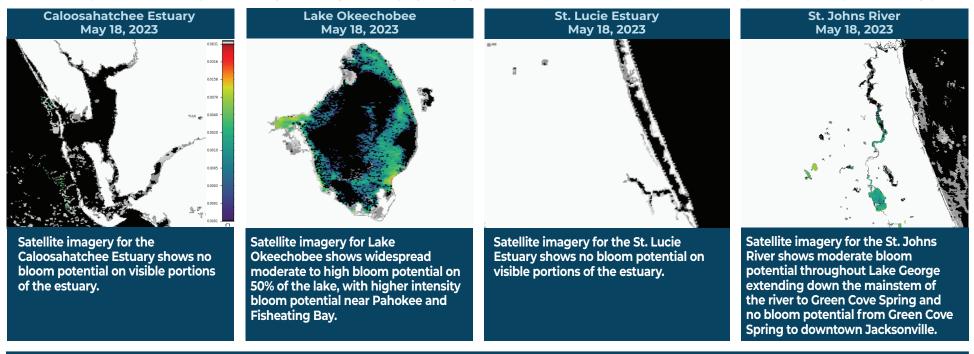


BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE REPORTING MAY 12 - MAY 18, 2023

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).



DEP works hand-in-hand with a network of partners to extensively survey and sample locations throughout Florida to evaluate water quality. Since the beginning of the year, DEP has received and responded to over 135 algal bloom reports from the public and local governments. To help us respond as quickly and efficiently as possible, residents and visitors are encouraged to report potential algal blooms through the department's hotline at 855-305-3903 or through <u>ReportAlgalBloom.com</u>.

SUMMARY

There were 63 reported site visits in the past seven days with 63 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at 34 of the sites.

On 5/15-5/18, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected harmful algal bloom (HAB) response samples from 27 sites. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

- Caywood Pond SW Dock: Microcystis aeruginosa; 1.2 parts per billion (ppb) microcystins detected.
- Lake Smart at Hibiscus Dr: Microcystis aeruginosa; trace level (0.29 ppb) microcystins detected.
- Lake Hancock South Central: Microcystis aeruginosa; microcystins estimated to be 1.1 ppb.
- Tiger Lake Center: Microcystis aeruginosa and Aphanocapsa delicatissima co-dominant; microcystins estimated to be 2.2 ppb.
- Peace River at Bartow SR60: Microcystis aeruginosa; trace level (1.0 ppb) microcystins detected.
- Peace River at Fort Meade: Microcystis aeruginosa; microcystins estimated to be 1.2 ppb.
- Lake Rochelle at Dock: Microcystis aeruginosa and Microcystis wesenbergii co-dominant; microcystins estimated to be 1.8 ppb.
- St. Johns River Buzzard Island: Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii; no cyanotoxins detected.
- Georges Lake Center: Microcystis wesenbergii; trace level (0.68 ppb) microcystins detected.
- Georges Lake Boat Ramp Rd: Microcystis aeruginosa and Microcystis wesenbergii co-dominant; trace level (0.81 ppb) microcystins detected.
- Niagara Waterway at Conway and Depew: Dolichospermum sp.; no cyanotoxins detected.
- Peace River at Mouth of Deep Creek: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- Peace River Nocatee Boat Ramp: Microcystis aeruginosa; no cyanotoxins detected.
- Lake Kinsale East End: Oedogonium sp. and Calothrix sp. co-dominant; cyanotoxin results pending.

Results are pending for Lake Apthorpe - Boat Ramp; Platt Lake – East; Lake Virginia - Dinky Dock; Lake George – North; Park Lake - W Shore; Lake Osceola - Canton Ave; Peace River - Crews Park Boat Ramp; Lake Seminole - Boat Ramp; Peace River - Brownville Park Boat Ramp; Sunset Lake - W Shore; Lake Rowena - near NE Corner; Blue Lake - Western Shore; and Lake Minnehaha - E Dock.

On 5/15–5/17, South Florida Water Management District staff collected 32 HAB routine and three HAB response samples.

The C44 canal - S308C (canal side), C43 canal - S79 (upstream), Lake Okeechobee - S308C (lakeside) and C51 Canal – S155 (upstream) samples had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected. The C43 canal - S77 (upstream) sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had no cyanotoxins detected. S352 (lakeside) samples had no dominant algal taxon and cyanotoxin results are pending.

The following Lake Okeechobee stations were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had toxins detected. Toxin results follow each station name: L004 (trace level, 0.56 ppb); POLESOUT (1.0 ppb); POLESOUT3 (trace level, 0.49 ppb); KBARSE (trace level, 0.39 ppb); L001 (trace level, 0.35 ppb); PALMOUT (trace level, 0.63 ppb); PALMOUT2 (10.6 ppb); PALMOUT3 (3.2 ppb); LZ30 (3.7 ppb); RITTAE2 (trace level, 0.5 ppb); L007 (trace level, 0.11 ppb); and Pahokee Marina Boat Ramp (trace level, 0.32 ppb).

The following Lake Okeechobee stations were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* but had no cyanotoxins detected: L008, L005, POLESOUT2, POLESOUT1, NES135, NCENTER, PELBAY3, L006 and PALMOUT1.

The following Lake Okeechobee stations had no dominant algal taxon or cyanotoxins detected: KISSR0.0, LZ2, NES191, EASTSHORE, POLE3S and LZ25A.

On 5/16, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff collected one HAB routine sample at **Lake Washington – Center**. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected.

Last Week

On 5/11, DEP staff collected HAB response samples from Lake Mariana - Near Ramp, Lake Burkett – Center and Lake Martha – NE Shore. All three sites had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected.

On 5/11, SJRWMD staff collected one HAB routine sample at Crescent Lake - mouth of Dunns Creek (CRESLM) that was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 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.

