



Coventry Lake Algae Bloom Update

July 28, 2022

For the next number of weeks, and until the Public Health Advisory is lifted, the Eastern Highlands Health District will post regular updates to our website at <http://www.ehhd.org/publicbathingwater> . These updates will usually be posted on Fridays, or Mondays of each week, pending the release of weekly monitoring results. This is the first of those updates.

Latest Field Observations and Selected Monitoring Results

Date	Location	Visual Observations	Cyanobacteria Cell Count (cells/ml)	Water Clarity (Secchi disk depth, meters)	Bloom Risk Category* (1, 2, or 3)	Other items
7/25/22	State Boat Launch	No mats, films, or scum Dark green color though out	63,237	1.3	Three (3)	Dark green color observed <i>lake-wide</i>
7/25/22	Lisicke Beach	No mats, films, or scum Dark green color though out	57,224	NA	Three (3)	Dark green color observed <i>lake-wide</i>

* Low risk = 1, Moderate risk = 2, High risk = 3; Based on CT DPH/DEEP Guidance to Local Health Departments for Blue-Green Algae Blooms, June 2021

Lake Community Algae Bloom Reporting Initiative

This is the first known lake-wide potentially harmful algae bloom on record for Coventry Lake. While many lakes and ponds in Connecticut experience such blooms, each may have its own distinct set of characteristics. So that we may better understand this bloom cycle for Coventry Lake, the Health District and Town of Coventry are asking lake residents to report “*surface scum, mats, films*” or *other accumulations of interest* when they are observed on or in the lake water. See the next page for instructions on how to make a report.



Eastern Highlands Health District

4 South Eagleville Road • Mansfield CT 06268 • Tel: (860) 429-3325 • Fax: (860) 429-3321 • Web: www.EHHD.org

To Make a Report

Email report to ehhd@ehhd.org

The report must include the following basic information:

- Photographs – Focused, color, high resolution photos if possible (3 to 5 images, max)
- Location – Must be specific, with a property address, if available
- Contact Information – Name and telephone number of person reporting

For visual examples of the surface scum, mats, films, and other algae accumulations of interest, please see the photographic images within the CT DEEP document titled, “Frequently Asked Questions of Cyanobacteria Blooms in Freshwater Lakes and Ponds”. *Please review the images within this document before photographing your own observations.* You can find this document and those images by following this link:

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/water/water_quality_management/cyanobacteria/Cyanobacteria-FAQ_June-3-2020.pdf

Health District staff will review and track all reports submitted. In consultation with the Town’s lake consultants, a limited number of reports will be selected for further investigation.

The Health District and the Town of Coventry greatly appreciate your support as we work together to monitor this situation.

Other Update Comments & Notes

- To date there have been two (2) reports of adverse health impacts that may be due to lake water exposure. Such reports can be reported to the health district at 860-429-3325.
- Reminder to call the Health District at 860-425-3325 with any health questions, and the Town Parks and Rec Department at 860-742-4068 regarding any Coventry recreation questions.
- You can also follow the Health District for updates on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EHHDCHART/>