


Sears Park Cyanobacteria Report, 6/18/2021

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Fri 6/18/2021 11:01 AM

 7 attachments (3 MB)

20210618_CHD_Cyanobacteria_Observation_Report_Lake_Poc.pdf; Image_A.jpg; Image_B.jpg; Image_C.jpg; Sears_Park_01.jpg; Sears_Park_02.jpg; Sears_Park_03.jpg;

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached observation report. Chatham Health District received a number of reports this week of green surface scums around the lake. Surface scums of Cyanobacteria were verified by Chatham Health District in the shoreline areas adjacent to Sears Park (Image A), and small surface accumulations were verified in the shoreline areas near Spellman Point (Image B) and Markham Bay (Image C). Water clarity was good at the public swim area of Sears Park this week, though the water had a slightly hazy appearance. There were no mats, films, or scums of Cyanobacteria on the surface at the public swim area, **but cyanobacteria were visible distributed in small amounts across some portions on the surface of the water.** In addition, Northeast Aquatics Research is reporting the presence of scum-forming Cyanobacteria capable of producing toxins that may be harmful to human health when scums are present. A sample of the water at Sears Park has been submitted to a laboratory for toxin testing, and results will be reported once testing is complete. There were no reports of adverse health impacts, **but conditions exist that may result in a harmful scum-forming algae bloom in the public swim area of Sears Park.**

Residents should avoid contact with water that looks green or blue-green throughout (sometimes described as looking like pea soup). Any mats, films, or scums on the surface of the water that are blue-green in color, look like spilled paint, or have a noxious odor (similar to Image A) should be reported to Chatham Health District and avoided. **Based on the visual observations this week, and reports from Northeast Aquatics Research, a warning advisory notice will be posted at Sears Park.** Signs will be posted at entry points to the swim area of Sears Park until the conditions improve.

Russ

In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, get vaccinated. If you are not yet fully vaccinated: wear a mask when indoors in public places, maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet, avoid crowds, wash hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds, stay home if you're sick. For the most current updates and recommendations, visit ct.gov/coronavirus. For general questions, call 2-1-1

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Cyanobacteria Observation Report Form

Observer's Name Russell Melmed

Date of Observation 6/18/2021

Time of Observation 08:00AM

Name of Waterbody Lake Pocotopaug

Town East Hampton

Description of Location Sears Park

Visual Assessment (Take and Attach Digital Photos)

Water Clarity (check all that apply):

- Clear
- Cloudy
- Hazy

Water Color (check all that apply):

- Green
- Brown
- Milky white
- Blue-green
- Red
- Clear

Is There a Visible Bloom: Yes No Don't know

If "Yes" Specify Category: 1 2 3

Is There a Visible Scum: Yes No Don't know

Other Observations:

Are there people swimming? Yes No Don't know

Are there people boating and jet skiing? Yes No Don't know

Are there people with dogs recreating in the area? Yes No Don't know