

# HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS



## What are they?

- Freshwater harmful algal blooms in rivers, streams or lakes are caused by cyanobacteria.
- Cyanobacteria, also sometimes known as blue-green algae, are not true algae.
- May form dense blooms under suitable environmental conditions: elevated temperatures, high levels of nutrients and calm water.
- Can produce toxins that are dangerous for humans, pets, livestock and wildlife.
- Toxins are referred to as cyanotoxins.
- Blooms not producing toxins can cause allergic reactions or skin irritation.

## What do they look like?

- May look like blue or green spilled paint, pea soup or parallel streaks
- Contact or ingestion may cause illness
- **Avoid It & Report It!**



For more info, scan the QR Code with your smart phone.



Be aware of Alerts that may be posted at a waterbody.  
Look for Alerts that may be posted at a waterbody

## AVOID IT & REPORT IT!

Report a suspected **harmful algal bloom** by scanning the QR code above with your smart phone's camera or here:  
<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/993bfe45dc494666af762b5397c12b9c>

You can also use the DEP Hotline at 1-877-WARNDEP (927-6337) or by using the WARN NJDEP mobile app. Download it at [www.nj.gov/dep/warndep.htm](http://www.nj.gov/dep/warndep.htm)



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