

THE WATER'S GREAT IN NEW YORK STATE!

STAY SAFE, STAY INFORMED

NYS has thousands of places to swim, fish, boat and paddle...but certain conditions can affect water quality.

Look for clues that mean the water is unsuitable for recreation:



Sewage pollution

Clues: scum, floating trash or debris, bad smell

Sewage contains viruses, bacteria, and parasites that can make you sick.



Harmful blue-green algae blooms

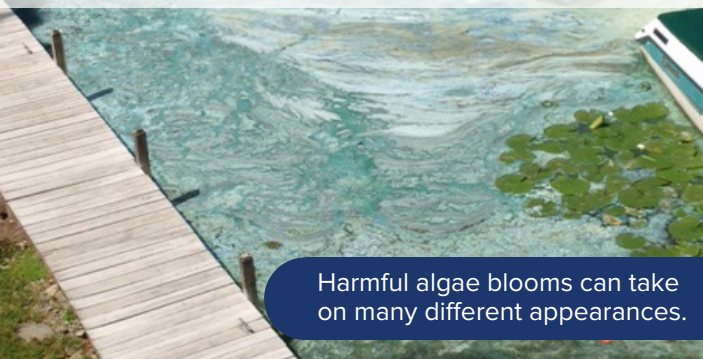
Clues: Cloudy or discolored water (resembling spilled paint, streaks, green globs or pea soup)

Some algae can make people sick. If exposed, pets/people should rinse with clean water immediately.

REMEMBER:

If you see poor water quality...

- Don't let children or pets drink or play in the water.
- Avoid swimming, water- or jet-skiing, paddling and fishing.
- Seek medical attention if pets/people show symptoms.



Harmful algae blooms can take on many different appearances.

Go to www.dec.ny.gov
(search for 'swimming') to:

- Choose where to swim.
- Find out which waterbodies have harmful algae blooms.
- Get alerts about sewage spills sent to your email or text.

For more information, see www.dec.ny.gov and search for 'sewage pollution' or 'blue-green algae'.

NYS Department of Health advises swimming at regulated beaches because they are monitored for safety.



Department of
Environmental
Conservation