**DANGER**

**TOXIC ALGAE PRESENT**

**DON'T** Play with scum or mats on the shore

**DON'T** Let animals drink water, eat algae, or swim

**DON'T** Swim

**DON'T** Boat or kayak

**DON'T** Fish or wade

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A harmful algal bloom (HAB) is an overgrowth of algae in a water body that can affect water quality and aquatic life. Some HABs produced by bacteria can create toxins that may also harm people, animals, and the local environment.

**HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS**

**LOOK OUT FOR**

**HOW TO IDENTIFY A HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM**

- Algal blooms can make the water appear green, brown, gold, or red. They often produce scum, mats, foams, or paint-like streaks on the water or clumps on the shore. However, only professional water testing can confirm if HABs and toxins are present. State and local governments often test water for bacteria or toxins to protect water quality as part of their water quality standards program.

**WHEN IN DOUBT, STAY OUT!**

**STAY AWAY FROM THE WATER WHEN YOU SUSPECT A HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM IS PRESENT.**

**WHO CAN GET SICK FROM A HAB?**

**SKIN CONTACT**

- Ear, eye, nose, skin, and throat irritation, and inflammation

**PESTICIDE-RESISTANT INSECTS, ILLETS, AND SEASUDES**

**ALCHOLEXIS INTOXICATION; DUNACE, LOW BLOOD, AND SUDDING**

**SHOWER IMMEDIATELY**

Contact your poison control center for advice

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REPORT POSSIBLE HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS:**

(844) 729-6466 [https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs/]

**CA HABS PORTAL**