Smith Mountain Lake – Blackwater River Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Status Report

Issued: Tuesday 6/6/2023 (toxin results updated 6/8/2023)
Next Issue: week of 6/26/2023 (weather dependent)

HELPFUL TIP:
Visit www.SwimHealthyVa.com and click on the Harmful Algal Bloom Map to review sample results near you. Expand the map using the symbol in the upper right hand map title bar, then click on the magnifying glass. You can search my location name or address.

Harmful algal (cyanobacteria) concentrations at unsafe levels
Lake area of HAB swimming advisory

Investigations at three locations on the Blackwater River arm of Smith Mountain Lake (Kemp Ford, Virginia Key, and Anthony Ford Landing) collected 6/1/2023 have unsafe levels of algae and is under a swimming advisory. Boating, fishing and other low contact activities may continue with proper caution. There is no evidence of impacts to drinking water at this time. Two acceptable samples taken at least 10 days apart are required to lift advisories. The HAB map and this status report have been updated and are posted at www.SwimHealthyVa.com. **6/8/2023 Update - Multiple toxins were detected but were below advisory levels in samples collected 6/1/2023. To lift advisories, both algae cell and toxin concentrations must be below advisory levels. **

When in Doubt, Stay Out!
Avoid swimming, fishing or letting your children or pets play in bodies of water that:
- Smell bad
- Look discolored
- Have foam, scum, or algal mats on the surface

BE AWARE of Harmful Algae Blooms
Water quality is tested to determine if health risks may be present.
During an algae bloom, water may have surface scum, mats, or films with red, green, white streaks, or glops.

For more information or to report an algae bloom visit www.SwimHealthyVA.com

To report a HAB-related illness contact the HAB Hotline at 888-238-6154.