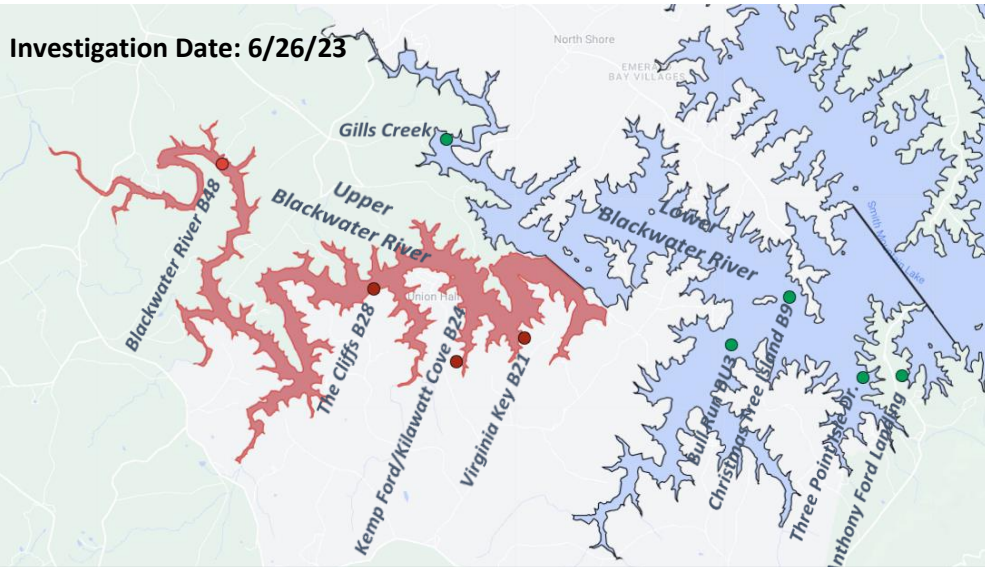


Smith Mountain Lake – Blackwater River - Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Status Report

Issued: Friday 7/7/2023

Next Issue: week of 7/17/2023 (weather dependent)




Investigation Date: 6/26/23



HELPFUL TIP:

Visit www.SwimHealthyVA.com and click on the Harmful Algae 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 by location name or address.

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

Investigations at four locations (green dots) on the Lower Blackwater River arm of Smith Mountain Lake (Bull Run BU3, Christmas Tree Island B9, Three Point Isle Dr. and Anthony Ford Landing) collected 6/26/23 showed acceptable levels of algae. Toxins were below detectable levels. Lab results were received 7/6/23. This is the second set of acceptable results at these locations. The swimming advisory for the Lower Blackwater to just above Gills Creek confluence has been lifted. The Upper Blackwater River from the Gills Creek confluence to the upper inundated waters of the Blackwater River remain under advisory due to unsafe algae levels at multiple locations (red dots) on 6/13/23. Two samples collected 10 days apart with acceptable algal levels is needed to lift the advisory in the Upper Blackwater River. The next sample event in that area is planned for the week of 7/10/23, weather permitting. Boating, fishing and other low contact activities may proceed with proper caution throughout the lake. There is no evidence of impacts to drinking water at this time. The [HAB map](#) and this status report have been updated and are posted at www.SwimHealthyVA.com.

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 algal bloom visit

www.SwimHealthyVA.com



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