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)

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.

Investigation Date: 6/26/23

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.

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

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.