



News Advisory

Warning advisory issued for harmful algal bloom at Big Bear Lake

People and pets should avoid water contact until further notice

August 27, 2026

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BIG BEAR LAKE – Visitors to Big Bear Lake are advised not to swim and to keep pets out of the water after testing confirmed harmful algal blooms throughout the lake.

Sites around the lake are being posted with **Warning** advisory signs. People should avoid contact with algae, scum and cloudy or discolored water until further notice.

The State Water Resources Control Board and Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board are coordinating with local partners to monitor conditions and keep visitors informed.

Warning

- Do not swim.
- Do not let pets or other animals enter or drink the water or eat algae or scum along the shore.
- Stay away from algae, scum and cloudy or discolored water.
- Do not eat shellfish from the lake.
- Do not drink the water or use it for cooking. Boiling or filtering will not make it safe.
- If you catch fish, throw away the guts and clean fillets with tap or bottled water before cooking.

Harmful algal blooms can produce toxins that make people and animals sick. Children and dogs are especially vulnerable because they are more likely to swallow water while swimming or playing.

The bloom at Big Bear Lake has appeared as discolored water, floating algae and scum, with algal mats also accumulating along portions of the shoreline. Conditions can change quickly as wind and waves move or concentrate a bloom in different areas of the lake.



Visitors should follow posted advisory signs and avoid suspicious-looking algae even in areas where signs are not present. Current conditions and advisory locations are available on the [California HAB Reports Web Map](#).

Visitors are encouraged to practice [healthy water habits](#) whenever enjoying California lakes, rivers and streams, including avoiding algae and scum, keeping children and pets away from affected water and washing with clean water after water contact. More information is available on the Water Boards' Healthy Water Habits webpage.

Seek medical or veterinary care immediately if you think a person or animal became sick after contact with a harmful algal bloom. Tell the medical or veterinary professional about the possible exposure.

To report a bloom:

- Submit a Bloom Report through the California Harmful Algal Blooms Portal.
- Email CyanoHAB.Reports@waterboards.ca.gov.
- Call the HABs hotline at 1-844-729-6466.

For more information, visit the California Harmful Algal Blooms Portal.



