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Caution: Harmful Algal Bloom returns to Cayuga Lake

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Elizabeth Thomas

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Hello everyone

Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) have once again been confirmed in Cayuga Lake as well as most of the other Finger Lakes. See the [DEC site](#) for locations.

Remember, if you see HABs, don't swim or (obviously) drink the water. HABs can look as obvious as green paint in the water or as subtle as small green flecks or globs floating through the water profile. The HAB outbreak as of 9/20 was spotty. As I understand it, if HABs are not visible, it's ok to swim.

Those who live on the lake and draw water directly from the lake are in a particular quandary since it is unclear if any water treatment methods remove the toxins, but apparently they breakdown fairly quickly once the HAB has gone.

[Cayuga County Department of Health](#) has a good website for more information.

Please be careful on these hot days,
-Liz

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