

SWCD's Response to Green Lake Algae Bloom Inquiries

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Date: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 08:27 PM CDT

INFO / Action GLID BOARD;

SWCD's Green Lake Algae Bloom Response to their many inquiries. See below>>>>

The Blue-Green hit hard again not too long ago.

It was thick and massive, and stayed in place with no wind.

I was wading (with hip boots!) through it to scoop about a 1000 pounds of muck/algae/ weeds into our harvester!!!

. Good news is we got a lot of our shoreline's blue-green remove and I didn't get sick 🎵

GLID did post warnings ,

so SWCD's additional followup info is good.

Thank you Tiffany for letting us know you got inquiries and your response.

Action: Marissa, pls post on GLID FB.

Maybe Lydia will post on SWCD FB.

Action: I will send out an GLID mailchimp email.

With the spring torrential rains, huge amount of nutrients were flushed from the watershed with very little chance to filter. Most I have ever ever seen, but it has happened before. Add heat with a long growing season. ..You get toxic bloom.

It will be interesting to get and analyze our volunteers water sample data. I have a feeling collecting samples at the 28ft doesn't totally reflect the shorelines thick mass of algae with its dense phosphorus.but, we'll soon find out.

Action: please forward your collected water sample data to me. SWCD has the lab results.

Hope,

Gordon Haubenschild

507-259-7097

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

On Tuesday, September 24, 2024, 3:39 PM, Determan, Tiffany - FPAC-NRCS, MN <Tiffany.Determan@mn.nacdnet.net> wrote:

Hello Gordy,

We have been receiving many calls about the algae blooms in Green Lake and I thought I should put together a response that can be shared. Would you be willing to send this to your mass email list? Please and thanks!
Thank you, my good partner, and make it a great day!

Greetings Green Lake Friends,

Thank you for the many calls, emails, and texts regarding the recent blue-green algae blooms, often called Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs) in Green Lake. This email is a follow-up to the communication we have already had with many of you. Please feel free to share this with your neighbors and friends.

First, no one wants to see or smell the intense algae issues that Green Lake is experiencing. The SWCD feels your pain because Green Lake is near and dear to our hearts, and we have been working hard to help improve lake health.

Here's what I know: you are not alone. Research supports the theory that climate changes (ie. Longer periods of warmer weather, heavy rains, and drought) and increased land use pressure can cause HABs to increase in frequency, intensity, and geographic range. Many lakes in the Twin Cities area are experiencing similar blue-green blooms. Heavy spring rains followed by a lengthy growing season have created prime conditions for the ugly blooms.

Please understand that we are seeking professional, scientific advice from our partners, such as The St. Croix Watershed Research Station and St. Anthony Falls Laboratory. These partners can provide crucial data and insights regarding predicting and understanding HABs and their implications on lake management. For those who like data, I have attached a good paper that explores the relationship between water temperature and nutrients on algae blooms. The St. Croix Research Station is also working on more research related to the topic. I look forward to receiving the results this winter.

What can you do?

Since you can't control the temperature, the best thing you can do is to reduce the amount of nutrients getting into the lake. Rain gardens, shoreline buffers, wetland restorations, cover crops, less hard areas (cement patios, sidewalks, driveways), etc). Many of you are already doing this, and we want to take a moment to appreciate your efforts. To you, we say THANK YOU, YOU ROCK! Please don't forget our progress; we are already close to 20% towards our watershed goal for nutrient reductions. You know the saying: it takes a village. If you haven't already joined in the effort, this is your nudge. Call the SWCD or Green Lake Improvement District today to learn more about what you can do! I have also attached some information regarding what you can do.

I need to point out that we will target the in-lake nutrients in the future (alum treatment or similar). First, we need to lessen the nutrients coming from the land- this is the SWCDs policy and the State funding source requirements. Planning for the future investment is a good idea.

Reducing nuisance algal blooms will take time, and the goal is to lessen the frequency and intensity of the blooms. Together, we can do this! Our commitment to this cause is unwavering, and we believe that with continued efforts, we can make a significant difference in the health of Green Lake.

More Information:

At home [Jar test for HABs](#)

What to do if you think there is a blue Green algae bloom: [MN Pollution Control Agency](#)

[MN Department of Health](#)

[Isanti SWCD-Green Lake Progress](#)

Be well friends,

Tiffany Determan

District Manager

Isanti SWCD

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