



# News Advisory

**Public advised to avoid contact with water at Glen Helen Regional Park after harmful algal bloom sighting**  
***Children and dogs are especially vulnerable to serious health impacts***

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**SAN BERNARDINO** – The discovery of a harmful algal bloom (HAB) at Glen Helen Lake Large has prompted the State Water Resources Control Board and Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board to urge recreational water users and dog owners to avoid water contact until further notice while visiting the area (see [incident map](#) for more information).

It is highly recommended that the public and their dogs stay out of the water and avoid contact with floating algal material and scum in the water or along the shore. Fish caught at the lake should not be consumed until this advisory is lifted. This recommendation is based on the potential health risks posed by organisms called cyanobacteria, and the high level of toxins measured in water samples collected on May 13, 2021. The HAB appears as bright to dull-green material near the water surface or floating, sometimes appearing similar to [spilled paint](#).

As the bloom continues to grow, cyanobacteria colonies may form thick algal mats or scum on the water surface and accumulate on the shore. Bloom conditions can change rapidly, as the flow of surface water and wind may mix, move, or concentrate the bloom into different areas. The bloom is being monitored by the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board to inform users when the bloom dissipates.

To learn how to stay safe around HABs, report a bloom, and more, visit the [CA HABs Portal](#).

