

WCMC Results August 1, 2022

Lake and Overall Risk	Phycocyanin Concentration (ug/l)	Particle Concentration (#/ml)	Cyanobacteria Density	Cyanobacteria Observed
Bell Pond	ND	1005	none	
Burncoat Pond	1235	57294	high	Aphanizomenon, Microcystis, Dolichospermum
Coes Reservoir	16	3809	some	Dolichospermum, Aphanizomenon, Woronichinia
Cooks Pond	ND	3894	low	Dolichospermum
Dark Brook Reservoir	ND	1455	low	Dolichospermum, Microcystis debris
Ecotarium Pond	72	17062	none	
Elm Park Pond	NA	35880	high	Dolichospermum, Microcystis debris
Farm Pond	ND	728	none	
Flint Pond	13	3267	some	Aphanizomenon, Microcystis debris, Dolichospermum
Green Hill Park Pond	ND	1322	low	Microcystis debris
Indian Lake	22	8983	low	Aphanizomenon, Microcystis
Kiver Pond	ND	4314	none	
Lake Quinsgamond	21	2708	low	Aphanizomenon, Microcystis debris, Dolichospermum
Lake Singletary	ND	1200	low	Dolichospermum
Little Indian Lake	72	20165	some	Aphanizomenon, Microcystis, Dolichospermum
Manchaug Pond	ND	587	low	Dolichospermum, Microcystis debris
Newton Pond	ND	1261	none	
Patch Pond	18	NA	NA	
Patch Reservoir	17	3466	none	
Salisbury Pond	40	11546	none	
Stevens Pond	ND	600	none	
Risk of Exposure	Phycocyanin ug/l	Particles/ml	Comparative density of cyanobacteria	
Almost none	0-15	0-1000	none	
Low	15-20	1000-5000	low	
Elevated	20-50	5000-10000	some	
Blooming	>50	>10000	high	



See reverse side for details

Results are based on methods that are not certified by the Commonwealth of MA but are presented as recommendations so that lake uses can make informed choices about their contact. We encourage people to use their best judgement, and "If in doubt, stay out!"

If you or your pet has been exposed to water that may contain cyanotoxins, rinse the areas with tap water immediately. If your pet has ingested scums or water containing cyanobacteria, contact your veterinarian as soon as possible.

WCMC Results August 27, 2022

Lake and Overall Risk	Phycocyanin Concentration (ug/l)	Particle Concentration (#/ml)	Cyanobacteria Density	Cyanobacteria Observed
Burncoat Pond	411	38842	high	<i>Aphanizomenon, Microcystis</i>
Cooks Pond	9	2074	low	<i>Aphanizomenon</i>
Ecotarium Pond	13	17087	none	
Farm Pond	13	35	low	<i>Dolichospermum</i>
Flint Pond	28	2647	some	<i>Microcystis, Aphanizomenon</i>
Green Hill Pond	29	3343	low	<i>Dolichospermum</i>
Indian Lake	17	8183	some	<i>Microcystis, Dolichospermum, Aphanizomenon</i>
Jordan Pond	20	2013	none	
Kiver Pond	37	18255	none	
Lake Waushacum	ND	1774	none	
Leesville Pond	12	5237	none	
Little Indian	132	51063	high	<i>Aphanizomenon, Microcystis</i>
Manchaug Pond	13	1376	low	<i>Aphanizomenon</i>
Newton Pond	ND	1740	none	
Patch Pond	51	9218	low	<i>Microcystis</i>
Stevens Pond	40	4459	none	

Risk of Exposure	Phycocyanin ug/l	Particles/ml	Comparative density of cyanobacteria
Almost none	0-15	0-1000	none
Low	15-20	1000-5000	low
Elevated	20-50	5000-10000	some
Blooming	>50	>10000	high



See reverse side for details

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If you or your pet has been exposed to water that may contain cyanotoxins, rinse the areas with tap water immediately. If your pet has ingested scums or water containing cyanobacteria, contact your veterinarian as soon as possible.

[Learn more at WorcesterMA.gov/WCMC](http://WorcesterMA.gov/WCMC)



Interpreting WCMC Results

If you or your pet has been exposed to water that may contain cyanotoxins, rinse with tap water immediately. Do not let animals lick their fur. If your pet has ingested scums or water containing cyanobacteria, contact your veterinarian as soon as possible and see these CDC guidelines:

[Cyanobacterial Blooms: Information for Veterinarians | Harmful Algal Blooms | CDC.](#)

The WCMC is a group of volunteer community scientists that is developing ways to assess risk to cyanotoxin exposure using fast and low cost methods. These results are based on methods that are not certified by the Commonwealth of MA but are presented as recommendations so that lake users can make informed choices about their contact.

We encourage people to use their best judgement, and “If in doubt, stay out!”

The WCMC does not measure cyanotoxins, instead the group uses four parameters to determine the **risk of cyanotoxin exposure**. These include **phycocyanin concentration**, **particle concentration**, **cyanobacteria density**, and the **cyanobacteria observed**. Each of the results are ranked and given a color to identify severity. The overall risk of exposure at each lake is determined by reviewing all four parameters together.

Risk of Exposure	Phycocyanin ug/l	Particles/ml	Comparative density of cyanobacteria
Almost none	0-15	0-1000	none
Low	15-20	1000-5000	low
Elevated	20-50	5000-10000	some
Blooming	>50	>10000	high

ND = Below detection limits

Risk of Exposure: Overall risk of exposure to cyanotoxins in the waterbody based on a holistic interpretation of the data collected.

Phycocyanin: Cyanobacteria-specific pigment concentration in the water. The more phycocyanin there is in the water, the more cyanobacteria are present. However, because different kinds of cyanobacteria produce different quantities of phycocyanin, the risk of toxin production is different for the same concentration of phycocyanin when there are different cyanobacteria present.

Particle Concentration: Particles include living and non-living materials and can be a proxy for overall turbidity of the water. High concentrations of particles in the water can be indicative of cyanobacteria blooms, but can also be the result of other factors such as non-living debris and sediment. The phycocyanin concentrations and cyanobacteria density help to interpret if particles are due to cyanobacteria or other sources.

Cyanobacteria Density: The ratio of cyanobacteria to other organisms in the sample. Higher densities can indicate elevated risk of exposure to cyanotoxins. Density results do not consider concentration, but in general, systems dominated by cyanobacteria are at higher risk for producing toxins.

Cyanobacteria Observed: Genera of cyanobacteria identified in the sample. Because different cyanobacteria have different levels of phycocyanin, observed cyanobacteria help determine the threshold of phycocyanin that is considered risky.