
PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Worcester Department of Public Works & Parks

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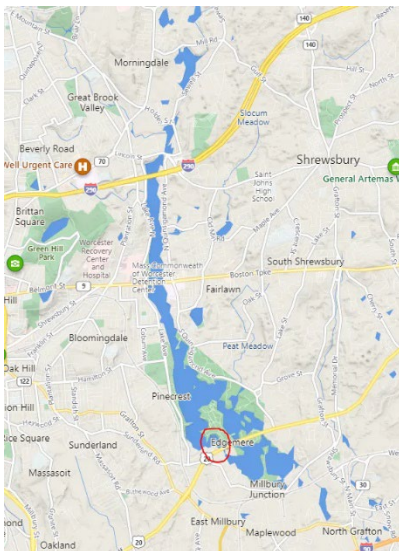
For immediate release
Cyanobacteria Advisory in Southern Lake Quinsigamond

The Department of Inspectional Services is issuing an advisory for the presence of cyanobacteria containing scums in the southern portion of Lake Quinsigamond known colloquially as Half Moon Cove. All persons should avoid contact with scums and keep pets out of the water where scums are present.

Cyanobacteria are naturally occurring, but can be harmful in high densities. On 10/26/22, the City confirmed the presence of cyanobacteria-containing scums in the Half Moon Cove portion of Lake Quinsigamond (see map). The cyanobacteria in them was identified as the genus *Dolichospermum*, which has the capacity to produce toxins.

Scums may be intermittent and variable in location, but are not necessarily affecting the whole lake. *If you or your pet has had contact with surface scums, wash off with freshwater immediately. If your pet has ingested any of the scums, contact your vet.*

The City has an active cyanobacteria monitoring and management program intended to keep our lakes safe for recreation and wildlife. To learn more about cyanobacteria and their toxins, please refer to our educational video series “The Blue Space Minute”, which can be accessed with this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p92wTVUX1MI>.



Location of cyanobacteria-containing scums



Surface scums in Half Moon Cove



Dolichospermum sp cyanobacteria

**For questions, please call the
Department of Sustainability and Resilience: 508-799-8325
www.greenworcesterma.gov
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Wednesday, October 26th, 2022/jb