



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

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## From the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation: Find Out More About Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

THOMAS F. O'MARA June 27, 2018

| ISSUE: **HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM**



Blooms of algal species that can produce toxins are referred to as harmful algal blooms (HABs). HABs usually occur in nutrient-rich waters, particularly during hot, calm weather.

The information below is from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's **Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)** webpage:

*What are Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)?*

*Most algae are harmless and are an important part of the food web. Certain types of algae can grow quickly and form blooms, which can cover all or portions of a lake. Even large blooms are not necessarily harmful. However some species of algae can produce toxins that can be harmful to people and animals. Blooms of algal species that can produce toxins are referred to as harmful algal blooms (HABs). HABs usually occur in nutrient-rich waters, particularly during hot, calm weather.*

*Keep reading to learn what to do if you spot a bloom.*

For additional information on HABs, including identification, safety recommendations, reporting and more, **[CLICK HERE](#)**.

For the latest on New York State's newly released action plans and additional updates, **[CLICK HERE](#)**.