
Cyanobacteria Visual Monitoring, 8/7/2026 - Great Hill Pond

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 9 attachments (8 MB)

GHP Cyanobacteria Visual Monitoring 20260807.pdf; IMG_2365.jpeg; IMG_2366.jpeg; IMG_2367.jpeg; IMG_2368.jpeg;
IMG_2369.jpeg; IMG_2370.jpeg; IMG_2371.jpeg; IMG_2372.jpeg;

Please see the attached observation report:

Visual observations for Cyanobacteria were taken at three locations along the shore of Great Hill Pond this morning (images and report attached). Water conditions were largely clear. Some evidence of cyanobacteria growth was observed along the shore of a private residence to which Chatham Health District was granted access. Reported in-lake herbicidal treatments and resulting die-off of targeted plant species may be creating conditions that are more favorable for cyanobacterial growth. At this time, we expect these conditions to be transitory and not widespread. However, until the pond's baseline oxygen and nutrient balance is restored, the risk of small surface accumulations appearing, especially along leeward shorelines, will remain elevated.

At this time, broad advisories to avoid all contact with the water **are not appropriate**. However, residents should avoid contact with water that looks green or blue-green throughout (sometimes described as looking like pea soup). Any mats, films, or scums on the surface of the water that are blue-green in color, look like spilled paint, or have a noxious odor should be reported to Chatham Health District and avoided.

Chatham Health District will revisit the pond next week to take additional visual observations. As conditions change, we will update our recommendations.

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