



September 3, 2020

Dear Harbor Isle Lake Resident/Owner:

SITUATION ANALYSIS

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has reported an active algae bloom in Harbor Isle Lake. The bloom, comprised of blue green algae or cyanobacteria, produces a toxin that can be harmful to humans and pets. **Do not come in contact with or allow pets to come into contact with the lake water during the active algae bloom.** The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) states that the best way to prevent exposure to blue-green algae toxins is to avoid water where scum, foam or algae mats are present or where water is a greenish color. The toxin can be an irritant when breathed, as well. Additional information on blue green algae can be found here:

- <https://myfwc.com/research/redtide/general/cyanobacteria/>
- <http://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/aquatic-toxins/harmful-algae-blooms/index.html>

NEXT STEPS

To address the ongoing algae bloom, the City's lake management company, SOLitude Lake Management, will apply a second application of a solution called GreenClean 5.0. On or around September 10, 2020. GreenClean is mixed with lake water and applied as a liquid to the lake surface. Byproducts of GreenClean are water and oxygen. You should see the algae turn brownish as it dies back. Information on GreenClean 5.0 can be found at: <https://biosafesystems.com/product/greenclean-liquid-5/>. In the event any fish are affected, please report dead fish to the city's dispatch number **727-893-7261** and the fish will be removed. The previous application of Green Clean occurred in March, 2020.

The lake aeration systems are operating and SOLitude Lake Management is continuing with their maintenance of the aeration systems and conducting water quality monitoring. SOLitude's contract has been extended for their second year to continue their services for the city.

HOW YOU CAN HELP PREVENT THIS IN THE FUTURE

The algae bloom was caused by an imbalance of nutrient levels. Incorrectly used irrigation systems can carry fertilizers, grass clippings and leaves containing nutrients. To best protect the lake, follow these best practices:

- Limit reclaimed water use to twice per week.
- Fertilize correctly. No fertilizer is needed if using reclaimed water since reclaimed water contains elevated nitrogen and phosphorous.
- Remove leaves and lawn debris from the streets.

Questions? Contact Tom Shemancik in the Engineering & Capital Improvements Department at tom.shemancik@stpete.org or 727-892-5384.



City of St. Petersburg
Engineering & Capital Improvements Department
P.O. Box 2842
St. Petersburg, FL 33731-2842