

### ***Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Update***

In previous years, the monitoring program did not observe blooms located in the northern end of the lake and blooms dominated by the cyanobacteria genus, *Microcystis*, until late August. Yet, the reported blooms from the past two weeks have largely been located in the northern end of the lake and have contained *Microcystis*. Research on HABs have found that warmer water temperatures tend to favor *Microcystis* growth, so a change in the average surface temperature of Cayuga's waters is one consideration. Still, there are a multitude of factors that may have influenced the change in HAB seasonal patterns on Cayuga Lake. The Community Science Institute (CSI) continues to learn more and hypothesize the factors that promote HAB occurrences.

*Reminder: You may visit [CLWN's website](#) for previous weeks' HABs Updates from the 2020 Monitoring Program.*



Bloom 20-3402-B2, located along the shoreline of Lake St., south of the Village of Cayuga.

Through public outreach, CLWN works with CSI to support their water quality research. Below is a partial chart showing the reported blooms from August 4th to August 11th. To get the latest update, visit CSI's [Cayuga Lake HABs Reporting Page](#), which provides an interactive map visualizing where the blooms are located.

<b>Bloom Sample Code</b>	<b>Date Sampled</b>	<b>Location Description</b>	<b>Bloom Extent</b>	<b>Microscopy</b>	<b>Microcystin Toxin (µg/L)</b>
<b>20-3458-B10</b>	8/6/2020	Along the shores of Water St. in the Village of Cayuga.	Large localized	Dense Microcystis	Results pending
<b>20-3459-B3</b>	8/6/2020	Along multiple shoreline residences of Springport Cove Rd. in Union Springs.	Large localized	Moderate to dense Microcystis	Results pending
<b>20-3402-B2</b>	8/6/2020	Along the shoreline of Lake St., south of the Village of Cayuga.	Large localized	Moderate to dense Microcystis	Results pending
<b>20-3452-B2</b>	8/7/2020	Along the shoreline of 2968 Lower Lake Rd.	Small localized	Results pending	Results pending
<b>20-3469-B3</b>	8/7/2020	Along Lower Lake Rd. in Cayuga Lake State Park in the Town of Seneca Falls.	Small localized	Results pending	Results pending
<b>20-3474-B1</b>	8/7/2020	Along the beach and boat launch at Frontenac Park in Union Springs.	Large localized	Results pending	Results pending

### ***Check Out the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network's Youtube Channel!***



[Harmful Algal Blooms and the Cayuga Lake HABs Monitoring Program](#) — A new 6-minute video has been posted explaining what HABs are and the risks they present.

The video further describes the Cayuga Lake HABs Monitoring Program, with goals of informing the public of HAB occurrences as well as accumulating information on HABs to better understand the factors that promote their development on Cayuga Lake. Almost all of the video and image content features the Cayuga Lake watershed, as well as fellow HABs Harriers and members of the HABs Leadership Team!



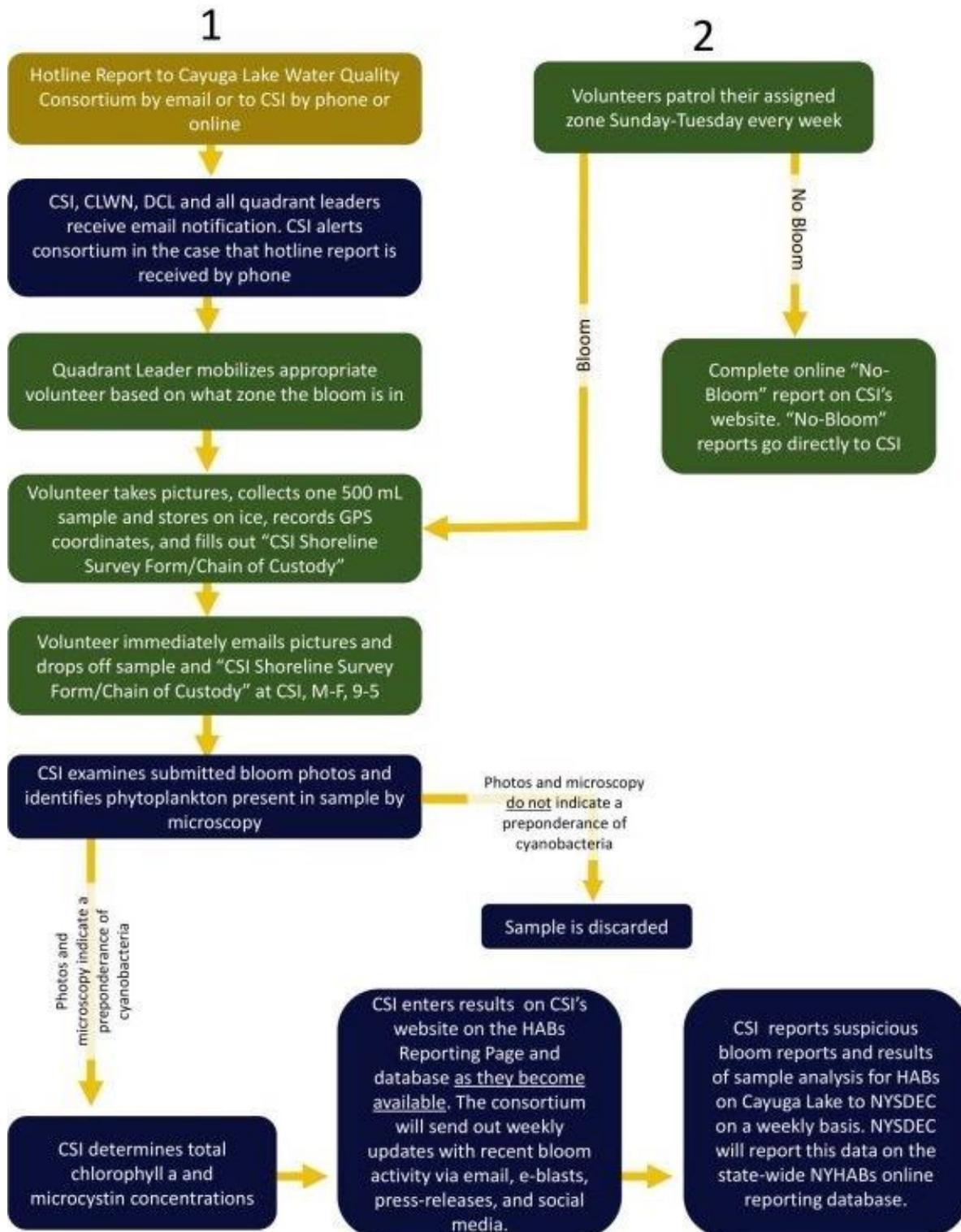
### ***2020 Cayuga Lake HABs Monitoring Flowchart***

The flowchart below demonstrates the steps taken from reporting a bloom to informing the public within the Cayuga Lake HABs Monitoring Program.

The Cayuga Lake HABs Monitoring Program depends on trained volunteers, or HABs Harriers, as well as the general public to report suspicious blooms. HABs Harriers monitor designated shorelines every week, and if no bloom is observed a “No Bloom” report is submitted to CSI. If a suspicious bloom is observed, the volunteer would collect a sample to be dropped off at the CSI lab for analysis. It is important for HABs Harriers to report to CSI every week whether there is or isn't a HAB because this information is gathered into a long-term database that enables the lab to see patterns of HAB occurrences on Cayuga Lake. The general public can report a suspicious bloom to [habshotline@gmail.com](mailto:habshotline@gmail.com), in which a Quadrant Leader would then direct a HABs Harrier within the designated monitoring zone to collect a sample.

Samples are then analyzed at the CSI lab to determine if the sample is a HAB by identifying the cyanobacteria taxa present and the chlorophyll a and microcystin toxin concentrations. Within 24 to 72 hours, CSI publishes the results of the lab analyses on the HABs Reporting Page. On a weekly basis, CSI also reports the HABs on Cayuga Lake to the New York State Department of

Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) for the data to be posted on the state-wide NYHABs online reporting database.



## ***Sign Up for the Upcoming Water Quality Cruise on Cayuga Lake!***



Date: Sunday, August 16th

Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location: The cruise will depart from the Allen H. Treman Marina at 800 Taughannock Blvd. Ithaca, NY

CSI's 4-H2O Education Program enables children to explore the world of science and environmental stewardship through hands-on activities. For this upcoming event, CSI's 4-H2O Education Program will partner with Discover Cayuga Lake's Floating Classroom to collect and analyze water samples using a Van Dorn sampler aboard the MV Teal. This is a true citizen science project, as the data collected by participants will be included in CSI's online water quality database. To learn more and to register for the program, visit [CSI's website!](#)

### ***Reporting a HAB***

If you observe a suspicious HAB, avoid it and report it! Email [habshotline@gmail.com](mailto:habshotline@gmail.com) with the location of the bloom, the date and time, and two pictures. If possible, include the GPS coordinates of its location using the Compass app or Google Maps on smartphones. Otherwise, an address or nearby landmark will do the job! You may also call CSI at (607) 257-6606.

### ***Stay Informed!***

Before heading on the lake, you can view the interactive map on CSI's [Cayuga Lake HABs Reporting Page](#) that is regularly updated. All of the confirmed HABs that occur on Cayuga Lake are sent by CSI to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), which is then reported on the state-wide [New York HABs Reporting Page](#). You may also call your local park office on the most up-to-date water quality information (see below).

Taughannock Falls State Park

(607) 387-6739

Cayuga Lake State Park

(315) 568-5163

Long Point State Park

(315) 364- 5637 or (315) 497-0130

Lansing Myers Park

(607) 533-7388 ext. 17

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*The Cayuga Lake HABs Monitoring Program is a collaborative effort led by a local consortium of three nonprofits: the Community Science Institute (CSI), the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network (CLWN), and Discover Cayuga Lake (DCL), working in collaboration with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the State University of New York Environmental School of Forestry (SUNY-ESF).*

*Cayuga Lake Watershed Network*

[programs@cayugalake.org](mailto:programs@cayugalake.org)

607-319-0475

*Community Science Institute*

[info@communityscience.org](mailto:info@communityscience.org)

607-257-6606

*Discover Cayuga Lake*

(607) 327-5253