

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 4, 2023



HEALTH OFFICIALS LIFT BLUE-GREEN ALGAE BLOOM ALERT FOR SAMPSON RIVER IN STARKE

Health Alert Has Been *Lifted* After Recent Sample Results

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Starke, FL The Florida Department of Health in Bradford County has lifted the health alert issued on November 28, 2022 for the presence of harmful blue-green algal toxins in Sampson River (off Sampson Lake). Follow-up water samples taken by the Department of Environmental Protection did not detect algal toxins, indicating the public may resume water-related activities.

It is important that the public exercise caution and good judgement. Blue-green algae blooms can move around or subside and then reappear when conditions are favorable again. Residents and visitors are advised to avoid contact with the water if blooms are observed. The latest sample results can be viewed on **[ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](https://www.flhealth.gov/protecting-florida-together)**.

Report symptoms from exposure to a harmful algal bloom or any aquatic toxin to the Florida Poison Information Center. Call 1-800-222-1222 to speak to a poison specialist.

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](https://www.nacpubl.org/), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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