

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 25, 2024



HEALTH OFFICIALS LIFT BLUE-GREEN ALGAE ALERT FOR LAKE HANCOCK – SOUTH CENTRAL

Contact:

Lydia George, PIO
lydia.george@flhealth.gov
863-578-2146

Polk County, Fla. — The Florida Department of Health in Polk County (DOH-Polk) has lifted a health alert for the presence of harmful blue-green algal toxins in Lake Hancock – South Central.

A health alert is lifted once follow-up water samples collected by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) do not detect algal toxins or 30 days have elapsed since the last sampling date, 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. 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.

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](#), works to protect, promote, and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, and community efforts.

Follow us on X at [@HealthyFla](#) and on [Facebook](#). For more information about the Florida Department of Health, visit FloridaHealth.gov.