

**NEWS** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | July 2, 2026

## Stay Safe on the Water This Fourth of July Weekend

**BISMARCK, N.D.** – As North Dakotans head out to lakes, rivers and reservoirs for the Fourth of July weekend, the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) is reminding the public to watch for harmful algal blooms, also known as HABs.

These blooms, often called blue-green algae, can produce cyanotoxins that may harm people, pets and livestock if swallowed or touched. Blooms can appear quickly, especially during warm, sunny weather.

### Current Advisories and Warnings

As of July 1, 2026, several North Dakota waterbodies have active HAB alerts. Visitors to these areas should use caution and check current conditions before entering the water.

#### Advisory:

Lake Darling, Renville County – Posted June 29

#### Warnings:

Bowman-Haley Dam, Bowman County – Posted June 29

South Golden Lake, Steele County – Posted June 29

Warsing Dam, Eddy County – Posted July 1

#### Avoid it. Report It.

- Before heading out, check current water conditions at [tinyurl.com/WMP-HABS](https://tinyurl.com/WMP-HABS). DEQ posts updates from May 1 to December 31.
- Water suspected of containing blue-green algae should be avoided.
- Bring plenty of water for people and pets. If contact occurs, rinse off with fresh water as soon as possible.
- Report suspected blooms at 701-328-5210, [tinyurl.com/WMP-HABS](https://tinyurl.com/WMP-HABS) or [DEQ-HAB@nd.gov](mailto:DEQ-HAB@nd.gov).

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#### For more information contact:

Brian Houle, Division of Water Quality

4201 Normandy Street | Bismarck, ND 58503-1324

PHONE: (701) 328-5193 | EMAIL: [bhoule@nd.gov](mailto:bhoule@nd.gov) | [www.deq.nd.gov](http://www.deq.nd.gov)