

Recommendations for Cyanobacteria and Cyanotoxin Monitoring in Recreational Waters: June 2017 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Report



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The United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) issued a June 2017 report titled:

Recommendations for Cyanobacteria and Cyanotoxin Monitoring in Recreational Waters (“Report”)

See EPA 820-R-17-001.

The purpose of the *Report* is described as providing EPA’s recommendations, information and process steps that a recreational water manager or public health official could choose to “follow, or adapt, to aid in determining if there is a harmful bloom or cyanotoxins posing a risk to humans, pets, wildlife and livestock in a water body.”

The *Report* includes the agency’s monitoring recommendations and provides general information on the issues including links to webpages with relevant information. It also provides what it describes as a “stepwise conceptual cyanotoxin monitoring program framework which includes”:

Step 1: Assess vulnerability of the water body to HABs and prioritize recreational waters for monitoring;

Step 2: Observe recreational water body for blooms at the beginning and throughout the recreational season;

Step 3: Monitor for cyanotoxins; and,

Step 4: Follow up cyanotoxin monitoring.

Each of these steps is described in some detail.

[A copy of the *Report* can be downloaded here.](#)