



June 2, 2021

Results from testing on blue-green algae collected from Lake Travis shortly before Memorial Day showed the algae continues to contain toxicity at levels that could be dangerous to people and pets if ingested.

Samples of algae material collected May 25 at the Travis Landing area of Lake Travis contained dihydroanatoxin-a, a toxin that can be dangerous to humans and pets when ingested. A dog died after playing in the water near Travis Landing in February, and every sample taken from that area since the death has contained dihydroanatoxin-a.

The May 25 samples showed a slight decline in the level of toxicity from earlier tests, continuing a trend we have seen in samples over the last several weeks. The toxicity was found in the algae material but not in the nearby water.

“These samples were collected before the recent rains, and we are eager to see what the net effect of the rainy weather will be on the algae,” said John Hofmann, LCRA executive vice president for Water. “While the rains and higher lake levels could dislodge some of the algae, the rain will also wash additional nutrients into the water, which could spur new algae growth.”

LCRA continues to urge people and pets to avoid contact with all algae in the Highland Lakes.

For more information on what homeowners can do to minimize the growth of algae, see the [Keep the Lake Clean, Not Green fact sheet](#) on [lcra.org](#). For more information about blue-green algae, visit [lcra.org/algae](#).