



Aug. 24, 2021

Testing in five of the Highland Lakes in July did not detect any toxicity from blue-green algae.

Samples were collected from:

**Lake Buchanan:** Llano County Park, Buchanan Dam swim area, Canyon of the Eagles and Burnet County Park.

**Inks Lake:** Near the Highway 29 bridge.

**Lake LBJ:** Horseshoe Bay, Sunrise Beach, Granite Shoals.

**Lake Marble Falls:** Cottonwood Shores.

**Lake Travis:** Pace Bend, Arkansas Bend and Turkey Bend parks.

LCRA continues to strongly encourage people to avoid contact with algae and to keep their dogs from ingesting or playing in algae in the Highland Lakes. Blue-green algae typically flourishes during hot weather, and it is not possible to determine if algae is emitting toxins without scientific testing.

In July, LCRA shifted to a new algae toxin monitoring plan in the Highland Lakes. Instead of testing at a specific site every few weeks, LCRA biologists are now using a protocol that puts small mesh bags in several locations throughout each of the lakes for a month at a time. The SPATT bags (or Solid Phase Adsorption Toxin Tracking) contain resin that adsorbs any toxins in the water surrounding the bags while they are deployed. The resin is then tested for blue-green algae toxins in a laboratory.

The City of Austin is conducting testing in Lake Austin and Lady Bird Lake.

For more information about blue-green algae, visit [lcra.org/algae](http://lcra.org/algae).

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