

White Pond Water Quality Monitoring Update, May 25, 2023

CURRENT WATER USE STATUS: Safe for All Recreational Uses

SUMMARY: There was a lot of activity at White Pond this week. The Town Beach was inspected and will be open to the public on weekends for the next month until the official opening on June 19th, 2023. Residents looking for passes are encouraged to reach out to the Concord Recreation Department. [White Pond | Concord Recreation Department, MA \(concordma.gov\)](#).

Water testing for E. coli began on Tuesday and results show less than 5 CFU/ml of E. coli bacteria. This is in accordance with the State Bathing Beach Regulation 105 CMR 445. Sampling and lab analysis of water for cyanobacteria continued with the second week of sampling. There was very little presence of cyanobacteria and the Pond has been deemed safe for all recreational uses.

Cyanobacteria Sampling and Bloom Status

Water samples taken May 23, 2023 show the cyanobacteria *Microcystis* is the organism of predominance.

Microcystin toxin levels at White Pond this week are estimated to be extremely low, both in deep water areas and near the town beach.

Water samples will be taken bi-weekly until the presence of a possible bloom is observed. The next sampling date will be June 6, 2023. Residents are encouraged to report a bloom on our report a Bloom link if any changes in water quality or a suspect bloom is observed.

→ [Report a Bloom](#)

A-Pod HAB Trap update

Two A-Pods were launched in Thoreau's Cove the week of May 8th. Jon Higgins will continue to adjust collection arms with anchors over the next few weeks.

Higgins Environmental observed oak pollen entering the A-Pod traps this past week. Jon removed it from the traps and will use some of this to start the compost bins for this season.

No build up was observed of either cyanobacteria (PC) or phytoplankton (Chl a) in the traps to date, this has been in past **two weeks**. Higgins Environmental had similar PC and Chl a readings around the pond at similar shallow depths with no visual evidence of blooms or concentrated cyanoHABs.

Monday, May 22, a change in wind and shallow current flow at White Pond dragged one light anchor a bit and allowed the A-Pod main collector member to move to the west by about 30-40 feet. This was reset on Tuesday, May 23, and another anchor was added.