

PROTECTING YOUR PETS

FROM CYANOBACTERIA (BLUE-GREEN ALGAE)

WHAT IS IT AND WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

Cyanobacteria can be found in lakes, rivers and wetlands. Under certain conditions, they can form surface blooms or benthic mats.

SURFACE BLOOMS can look like scum, foam or paint streaks on the water's surface, and can appear blue-green, green, red or brown.

BENTHIC MATS look like clumps of vegetation that can appear brown or dark green in the water. They may be attached to rocks or aquatic vegetation, or floating in the water. If they wash up on shore, they may appear brown or grey once they have dried.



SURFACE BLOOMS



BENTHIC MATS

WHY IS IT DANGEROUS FOR DOGS?

Some cyanobacteria produce toxins that could be harmful to a dog's liver and brain. Dogs are attracted to the odour, and if ingested, they may:

- Vomit and be sick
- Have a seizure
- Experience breathing difficulties
- Have diarrhea
- Collapse and become unconscious
- Die



CALL A VETERINARIAN RIGHT AWAY

if you suspect cyanobacteria poisoning

HOW DO I AVOID CYANOBACTERIA?

- Always check the water and shoreline.
- Do not let dogs drink or swim in water where visible blooms or mats are present.
- Do not let dogs eat benthic mats or vegetation floating in the water or along the shore.
- On hot days, consider walking your dog in the morning or evening.
- Always take fresh water on walks for you and your dog.



For **MORE INFORMATION** or to **REPORT CYANOBACTERIA**

visit www.gnb.ca/algae

