



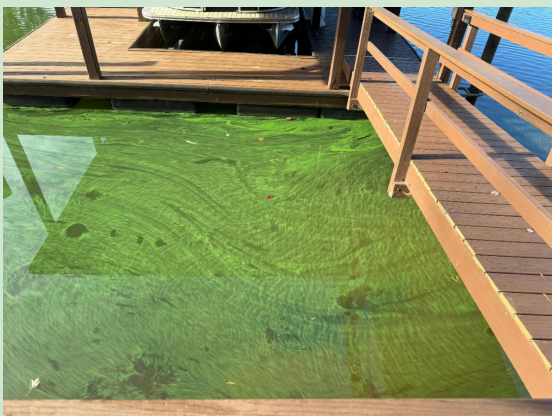
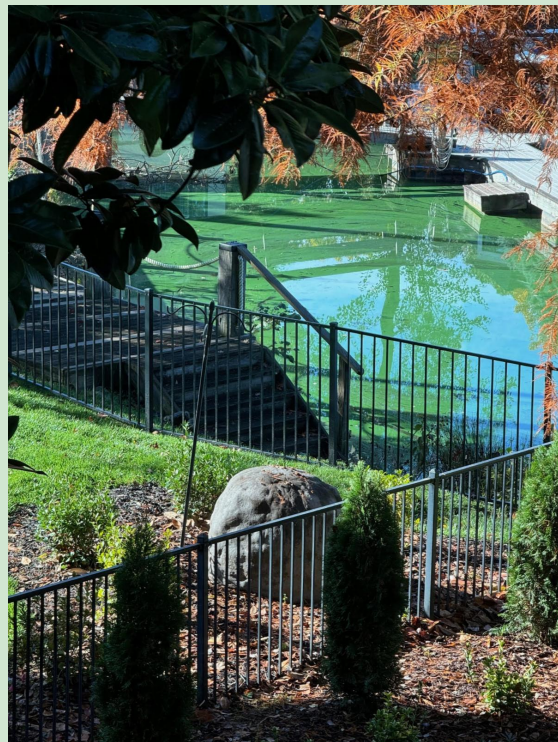
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from the Peninsula Property Owners Association

Harmful Algae Blooms

The algae blooms now observed across most of Lake Norman are *Microcystis* which are very different than *Microseria* (Lyngbya).

Microcystis can release a cyanotoxin called *Microcystin* which can be harmful to humans and animals. The North Carolina Division of Water Resources and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services discourage treatment of *Microcystis* algal blooms primarily because of the ability of this species to move around in the water column and across the lake from wind and wave action making effective treatment very difficult.



Additionally, when *Microcystis* is killed using chemical treatment, the dying cells release *Microcystin* toxin into the water which increases human health risks.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services' (CMSWS) message to the community is people and pets should avoid contact with bright green or whitish water. We do anticipate that the blooms will continue over the coming weeks as a result of the excess nutrients in the water post-hurricane.

To report algae blooms, the State has educational information that can be found here:

<https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/water-sciences/algal-blooms>

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