

## ATTENTION SURFERS, SWIMMERS, & ANGLERS: TOXIC ALGAE

## **IMPACTS OF TOXIC ALGAE**



Contaminated drinking water can make people and wildlife sick.



Algae blooms emit noxious fumes.



Eating contaminated fish or seafood can cause illness.



Recreational exposure can make people and pets sick.

## **BE ALGAE AWARE:**

- Blue-green algae can live in any type of water and may look like foam, scum, or mats on the surface of the water. Booms can be blue, bright green, brown, or red.
- Symptoms of exposure can include abdominal cramps, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, rash or respiratory irritation.
- Most common exposure is through recreational activities. *Avoid areas with fish kills and surface water discoloration.*

## **TAKE ACTION:**

- To report an algal bloom near you, call the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Bloom Reporting hotline at <u>1-855-305-3903</u> or report online at <u>reportalgalbloom.com</u>
- If algae exposure makes you sick, contact your healthcare provider and county health department right away. Indian River DOH:772-794-7400, Martin County DOH: 772-221-4000, Palm Beach County DOH: 561-840-4500.
- You can also report incidences of ocean illness to the Surfrider Foundation at https://sickatthebeach.crowdmap.com/