



**There are EIGHT beach advisories for the week of**  
**8/16**

**4 Beaches with E.Coli-Related Advisory:**

- Backbone Beach (*Dundee, Delaware County, IA*)
- Beeds Lake Beach (*Hampton, Franklin County, IA*)
- Clear Lake Beach (*Clear Lake, Cerro Gordo County, IA*)
- McIntosh Woods Beach (*Clear Lake, Ventura, Cerro Gordo County, IA*)

**4 Beaches with a Microcystin-Related Advisory:**

- Beeds Lake Beach (*Hampton, Franklin County, IA*)
- Green Valley Beach (*Creston, Union County, IA*)
- Lake of Three Fires Beach (*Bedford, Taylor County, IA*)
- McIntosh Woods Beach (*Clear Lake, Ventura, Cerro Gordo County, IA*)

**Beaches exceeding the EPA recommendation for microcystin (8 micrograms/L) but not issued an advisory:**

- Clear Lake Beach (*Clear Lake, Cerro Gordo County, IA*) - 11.4 µg/L
- Lake Darling Beach (*Brighton, Washington County, IA*) - 16.41 µg/L
- Lake Keomah Beach (*Oskaloosa, Mahaska County, IA*) - 16.85 µg/L
- Union Grove Lake Beach (*Gladbrook, Tama County, IA*) - 18.91 µg/L

# Protecting Our Vulnerable Loved Ones from Toxic Algae

by [Ingrid Gronstal Anderson](#), IEC Water Program Director

I spent the last week with my parents, my niece and nephews, and my dog at Spirit Lake. We swam, boated, floated, and spent the whole week jumping in and out of the water. Luckily, water quality in the Iowa Great Lakes is some of the best in the state, due in no small part to the commitment the community has made to conservation practices and water quality protection in Dickinson County.

I have been an animal nerd my entire life, and my scruffy, doofy rescue mutt may be my favorite creature on this planet (don't worry, my husband is well aware, and he shares the sentiment). As a water quality professional, I also know all too well the risks that harmful algae blooms carry for those of us just trying to cool off and enjoy ourselves at the lake. [For our pets and our children, those risks can be particularly high.](#)



Harper on the boat in Spirit Lake

[Read the full story](#)

# Toxic Algae Resources

- [Examples of what to look for](#) (photos)
- [Causes of HABs](#)
- [Impacts of Exposure](#)
- [DNR Resources](#)
- [Iowa Department of Public Health Resources](#)
- [EPA Information](#)
- [CDC Information](#)



Lake McBride - June 2019



View of Little Millers Bay from Iowa Lakeside Laboratory last week. We're ready for another gorgeous Iowa weekend! Share your photos with us @iowawaterwatch!





## What's New in Iowa's Water News

[Wastewater plant upgrades stress small towns; Small populations shoulder high costs of requirements](#) (*The Gazette*)

[Iowa uses less restrictive standards than EPA guidance for blue-green algae toxins](#) (*Des Moines Register*)

[Three dogs played in a pond. Toxic algae killed them.](#) (*The Washington Post*)

[EPA Announces \\$3.15 Million in Water Quality Funding in Iowa](#) (*U.S. EPA*)



## Upcoming Water Events

[Conversations about Conservation](#) - Prairie City - August 28

**IEC's End of Summer Beach Party** - Des Moines - September 10 *Save the date!*

[DMWW Citizen Water Academy](#) - Des Moines - Application due September 20

[American Water Works Association Iowa Section Annual Conference](#) - Ames - October 22-24

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