



U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer urged the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to act quickly to help curb the threat that toxic algae found in nearly 100 Upstate New York water bodies is posing to drinking water and New York residents. Schumer explained that the toxins that this algae produces, cyanotoxins, have the potential to contaminate local drinking water because many of these lakes or reservoirs are used as drinking water sources. This toxin is also found in lakes that are used for boating or swimming, putting swimmers at risk and also causing beach closures, which harm tourism and the local economy. Therefore, Schumer pushed the EPA to issue guidance to help protect New York drinking water supplies and New York residents. First, Schumer asked the EPA to issue guidance to help local water treatment plants test for and treat cyanotoxins in drinking water sources. Over a dozen countries including Canada currently test drinking water for cyanotoxins, but to date the EPA has not issued guidance on testing in the United States. Second, Schumer urged the EPA to develop water quality criteria for cyanotoxins in ambient water, which will help states better identify contaminated water bodies and implement water quality improvement programs that will help keep beaches open and drinking water safe.

Total Water Bodies With Reported Blue-Green Algae Blooms 2012-2013: 96

Capital Region

| COUNTY | Lakes with Reported Algal Blooms 2012-13 |
|-------------------|---|
| Albany | Buckingham Pond Warners Lake Basic Creek Reservoir Buckingham Lake Washington Park Lake |
| Columbia | Copake Lake |
| Greene | Sleepy Hollow Lake |
| Rensselaer | Nassau Lake Snyders Lake Tomhannock Reservoir* Burden Lake |
| Saratoga | Round Lake Ballston Lake Saratoga Lake |
| Schoharie | Summit Lake |
| Washington | Cossayuna Lake Lake Champlain |
| TOTAL | 17 |

Hudson Valley

| COUNTY | Lakes with Reported Algal Blooms 2012-13 |
|--------------------|--|
| Dutchess | Ellis Pond |
| Orange | Four Corners Pond Little We Wah Lake Orange Lake Tomahawk Lake We Wah Lake Beaver Dam Lake Browns Pond |
| Putnam | Roaring Brook Lake Kirk Lake Putnam Lake |
| Rockland | Lake Lucille Nassau Lake Rockland Lake Congers Lake Hackensack River-East Branch |
| Sullivan | Montgomery Lake Anawanda Lake Wolf Lake |
| Westchester | Bedford Lake Katonah Lake Lake Mohegan Lake Waccabuc Lake Lincolndale Peach Lake Tarrytown Reservoir Truesdale Lake |
| TOTAL | 27 |

Rochester Finger Lakes

| COUNTY | Lakes with Reported Algal Blooms 2012-13 |
|----------------|--|
| Monroe | Long Pond |
| Ontario | Honeoye Lake |
| Wayne | Sodus Bay |
| Wyoming | Java Lake |
| TOTAL | 4 |

Central New York

| COUNTY | Lakes with Reported Algal Blooms 2012-13 |
|-----------------|---|
| Cayuga | Little Sodus Bay Lake Como Owasco Lake* |
| Cortland | Song Lake Deans Pond Melody Lake |
| Madison | Cazenovia Lake Craine Lake Hatch Lake Lake Moraine Tuscarora Lake |
| Oneida | Oneida Lake Oneida River |
| Onondaga | Oneida River |
| Oswego | Lake Neatahwanta Lake Pleasant Lorton Lake |
| TOTAL | 17 |

Southern Tier

| COUNTY | Lakes with Reported Algal Blooms 2012-13 |
|-----------------|---|
| Allegany | Alma Lake Lawsons Lake |
| Broome | Beaver Lake Laurel Lake |
| Chenango | Chenango Lake* Echo Lake |
| Delaware | Somerset Lake Titus Lake |
| Otsego | |
| Schuyler | Cayuta Lake Waneta Lake* Lamoka Lake* Lamoka Lake Channel* |
| Steuben | Goodhue Lake Loon Lake Mud Lake Smith Pond |
| TOTAL | 16 |

North Country

| COUNTY | Lakes with Reported Algal Blooms 2012-13 |
|---------------------|--|
| Clinton | Lake Champlain |
| Essex | Lake Champlain |
| Franklin | Eagle Pond |
| Jefferson | Butterfield Lake |
| St. Lawrence | Black Lake Silver Lake Grass Lake |
| Warren | Sunnyside Lake |
| TOTAL | 7 |

Western New York

| COUNTY | Lakes with Reported Algal Blooms 2012-13 |
|--------------------|--|
| Cattaraugus | Allegheny Reservoir Beaver Lake Beaver Lake Inlet Lime Lake Red House Lake |
| Chautauqua | Chautauqua Lake Findley Lake |
| Erie | Lake Erie* |
| TOTAL | 8 |

Methodology

- Data compiled from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's [2012](#) and [2013](#) reports on "Archived Blue Green Algae Notices." Note: Lake Erie and Lake Champlain were not included in the DEC's archived reports, as they are not exclusively New York Lakes, but have been widely reported to have experienced blue-green algae blooms.

*Used as a public drinking water source