

There are 2 types of harmful algae growth in Utah water bodies

TYPE 1

Harmful algae mats

Harmful algae mats can be found growing on submerged rocks, plants, and sand or as floating mats in lakes, reservoirs, and rivers.

Feathery or mucous-like



Thick scum floating on water



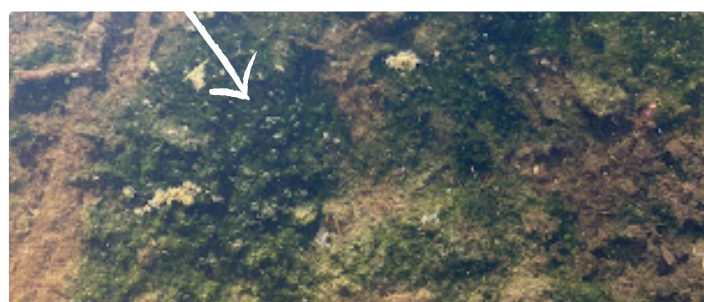
Dried mats on shoreline



Underwater accumulation



Blue-green growth on ground or in shallow water



TYPE 2

Harmful algal blooms (HABs)

HABs form green or blue-green water or scum in lakes, reservoirs, and rivers.

Blue-green water



Spilled paint



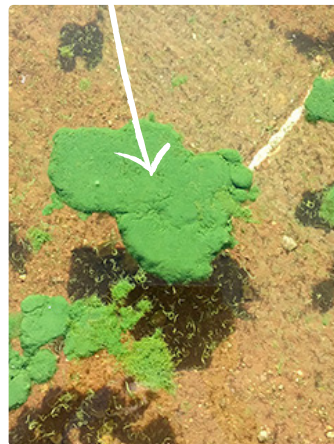
Grass clippings or fuzzy nodules



Blue-green residue on shore



Green floating globules



Floating green scum



Harmless aquatic plants

Not everything green is harmful algae. Some non-toxic aquatic vegetation is often confused with harmful algae. Don't be fooled!

Safe: filamentous green algae

See something like this? Use a stick to lift up a piece of the material. If it has a fibrous, hair-like texture (as photographed), what you're seeing is likely harmless filamentous green algae.



Safe: duckweed

This aquatic plant can float in large masses on the water. Take a close look. If you can see small roots or leaves you know that the growth is harmless duckweed.

