

# Blue-green algae present in this water

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**Harmful algal blooms can kill wild animals, farm livestock and domestic pets.**

**Keep livestock and pets away from affected waters.**

In humans, they can cause skin rashes, sore eyes, vomiting, diarrhoea, fever, muscle and joint pain.

Long-term effects are rare and no-one is known to have died but, in some cases, people have been very ill.

**If you come into contact with the water, wash in clean water.  
And if you feel ill, contact your doctor or nearest hospital.**

## **What are blue-green algae?**

They're naturally occurring fresh water bacteria suspended in the water or attached to rocks and other surfaces. You will usually see them concentrated in 'blooms' as green flakes, greenish or brownish bundles or dots or even bright blue clumps.

Blooms can change the appearance, smell and quality of water as well as its safety. They can cause foam on the shoreline, particularly during warm, still, settled weather conditions.

**Not all blue-green algae blooms are toxic, but you can't tell just by looking at them.**

## **Contact information**

- Environment Agency Incident Line: 0800 807060 (24 hours)
- Lake District National Park: 01539 724555 (office hours) [www.lakedistrict.gov.uk](http://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk)

