

Sutton, Kaitlyn

From: Carol Ann <bonbinifromcal@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2019 5:09 PM
To: Sutton, Kaitlyn
Subject: blue green algae

I'm commenting on the issue of how much blue green algae to allow in our waters. This is also known as cyanobacteria and microcystin. Hope I spelled them correctly or close to it. **Ideally we don't want any.** The only way to achieve this will take time, money, building of retention ponds and reservoirs to let the toxic algae settle and die before release into rivers and lakes, etc. Marshes have been shown to aid in the cleaning of the water too. We need to **stop allowing biosolids from waste treatment plants** (processed sewage) from being put on agricultural fields and large areas of land near rivers, streams and lakes. This can leach into the water and cause the algae to grow. We need to **stop spraying with Round Up with glyphosate that feeds the algae.**

The algae is toxic to humans. It causes liver failure. Other diseases have been linked to it. Watch the movie "Toxic Puzzle" to see them. **A dog in Martin County died from exposure to the algae. It can become airborne and get in animal and human noses. It kills fish.** It has **contributed, they believe, to the huge Red Tide outbreak of 2018 on Floridas west coast.** Red Tide happens naturally but this was an especially bad outbreak. It flowed around the tip of S. Fl and up the Atlantic Coast beaches up to Vero Beach for sure. Maybe further.

We need to **stop pollutants and nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus from getting in** rivers, lakes and Lake Okeechobee to start with. The nitrogen and phosphorus comes from fertilizers. It can come from agriculture areas, like big sugar, commercial such as golf courses and residential. Martin County has a **ban on fertilizers that can't be applied during the rainy season**. That helps as runoff from rain goes into the drainage canals, then streams, rivers, ponds and lakes.

Why can't we find **more natural fertilizers** such as compost from farm animals, clippings from vegetation and some food scraps like people used to use? I prefer organic produce. No GMO foods either.

We need to spray for weeds if some feel they have to do that, only with **more natural weed killers**. Vinegar, soaps with some oil and water, etc. Liquid chlorine can kill weeds. It dissipates to a salt and doesn't get in the soil like glyphosate does. I've used it at home. It doesn't last as long as Round Up but isn't as toxic to humans and soil.

Pyrethrum from the Pyrethrum flowers will kill pests. So does soap, water and oils. **Use natural pesticides.**

Hurry up and finish securing the dike on Lake O so it can hold more water. Hurry and finish the south reservoir. Funds have been obtained for this. Stop leasing land to big sugar that could be used for the reservoir. The C44 retention pond just opened that will store some Lake O water. It's not doing enough. **We can't allow algae laden water to form in Lake O and can't discharge it into the Calloosahatchee River, St Lucie River and Estuary.**

Thanks for listening.
Carol Ann Leonard