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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN LEE COUNTY CONTINUES HEALTH ALERT FOR THE CAPE CORAL MAKAI AND HIGHLANDER CANALS

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**Lee County, Fla., September 4, 2020** – The Florida Department of Health in Lee County (DOH) continues the Health Alert for the **Cape Coral – Makai and Highlander Canals**. Microcystin toxins continue to be measured in the Makai Canal. While toxins were not detected in the Highlander Canal, out of an abundance of caution, the Alert remains in place for both canals. When blue-green algae is visible, DOH recommends individuals avoid contact with the water. DEP will continue to post updates for the **Cape Coral - Makai and Highlander Canals** on their [website](#).

Blue-green algae can cause gastrointestinal effects if swallowed. Children and pets are especially vulnerable, so keeping them away from the water during a bloom is especially important. Additional information on blue-green algae is available [here](#). If you wish to report a new algae bloom please visit DEP's [Algal Bloom Monitoring & Response](#) webpage.

The City of Cape Coral, DEP, the five water management districts, DOH, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services all work together to respond to algal blooms. DEP has been closely monitoring and testing algal blooms and will continue to respond to any new reports.

### **About the Florida Department of Health**

The department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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