

UTAH WATER WATCH

QUICK GUIDE – SAFETY



- NEVER enter water under dangerous conditions: high flows, extreme weather, flooding, rapids, abnormal colors or odors, etc. When in doubt, DON'T go out!
- Take a partner and/or let someone know when and where you are monitoring.
- Be aware of hidden dangers: barbed wire, metal, glass, snakes, etc.
- Stay hydrated, wear sunscreen, bug spray, wear good footwear, etc.
- Always wash your hands after monitoring and decontaminate equipment.
 - Decontamination Procedure:
 - Before leaving site, remove any visual debris (mud/plants).
 - Clean equipment with warm soapy water or disinfecting solution (e.g. Lysol, Bleach, Ethanol)*
 - Completely dry out equipment.
 - Summer: approx. 7 days
 - Spring/Fall: approx. 18 days
 - Winter: approx. 30 days
 - *IF you have multiple sites, bring distilled or purified water with you to rinse the equipment between sites. Start monitoring with your **least** "contaminated/dirty" site when possible.

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QUICK GUIDE - MONITORING

When to Monitor:

Once a month from April to October

E. coli monitoring is from May to September

- This means you do not need to collect water samples to test for E. coli in April and October.

E. coli Identification - Color Guide

E. coli - dark purple

- w/purple halo
- w/o purple halo
- w/pink halo

E. coli - dark blue

- w/purple or pink halo
- w/o halo
- w/teal halo
- w/blue halo

Not E. coli - Pink or red

- w/o halo
- w/pink halo

Not E. coli - Teal Green

- w/o halo
- w/teal halo

Not E. coli - White

HABs

If you suspect a Harmful Algal Bloom call the 24 hour Environmental Incidents Line at (801) 536-4123, then take photos and contact UWW by phone or email as soon as possible.



Note:

Do not count pinpoints if the plate is dominated by larger colonies. Pinpoints may be counted if they make up >50% of colonies. If possible, incubate a few additional hours to see if colonies will grow larger.