# 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.

## UTAH WATER WATCH 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

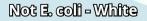
- E. coli dark purple
  - w/purple halo
  - w/o purple halo
  - w/pink halo
- E. coli dark blue
  - w/purple or pink halo
  - w/o halo
  - w/teal halo
  - w/blue halo

#### Not E. coli - Pink or red

- w/o halo
- w/pink halo

### Not E. coli - Teal Green

- w/o halo
- w/teal halo



## 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.

Questions? Please Ask!

utahwaterwatch@gmail.com

(435) 797-2580



#### 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.