

100 photos that can help prevent sickness, save lives as world warms up

A series of 100 photos may reduce the risk of American Indians and Alaska Natives being exposed to or consuming water or food containing harmful cyanobacteria.

The colorful images are part of a new field and laboratory guide developed by the U.S. Geological Survey to help American Indian and Alaska Native communities develop an awareness of what harmful algal blooms look like in the field and be able to distinguish them from non-toxic blooms.

Harmful algal blooms that are dominated by certain cyanobacteria are known to produce a variety of toxins that can negatively affect fish, wildlife and people. Exposure to these toxins can cause a range of effects from simple skin rashes to liver and nerve damage and even death, although rarely in people.

The issue may be increasing in importance as scientists indicate warming global temperatures can exacerbate the growth of harmful algal blooms.

“We are likely to see more cyanobacterial blooms in the future as waters continue to warm,” said Barry Rosen, a USGS biologist and author of the guide. “Cyanobacteria proliferate in warm water temperatures, generally about 25 degrees Celsius (77 F) and are more tolerant of these warmer conditions than their competitors, such as green algae. We expect numerous other physiological adaptations will give cyanobacteria an advantage as global climate changes occur.”

While communities worldwide might find the field and laboratory guide of use, those with people in direct contact with

surface water or who consume fish and shellfish could find it particularly helpful.

“In the U.S., Native American and Alaska Native communities, especially those reliant on subsistence fishing or who have frequent contact with surface water, have an increased risk of exposure to cyanotoxins,” said Monique Fordham, the USGS national Tribal liaison. “This guide will give them a new resource to use to monitor the waters they rely on and protect their people.”

Algae serve as the base of the food web in aquatic habitats. When algae cause a “problem,” typically a surface scum or accumulation on or near a shoreline, it is given the name “algae bloom” and many times is called a harmful algae bloom.

An algae bloom forms under the correct environmental conditions, including nutrient abundance, stability of the water column, ample light and optimal temperatures.

Although many different types of algae are responsible for harmful algae blooms, cyanobacteria, which produce natural cyanotoxins, pose the greatest problem and are the focus of this guide.

The guide includes photos of what cyanobacteria blooms look like in a waterbody as well as photos of cyanobacteria taken through the microscope, which is needed to determine the type of bloom that is present.

The publication, *Field and Laboratory Guide to Freshwater Cyanobacteria Harmful Algal Blooms for Native American and Alaska Native Communities*, by Barry H. Rosen and Ann St. Amand, is available at pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/ofr20151164.

USGS provides science for a changing world. Visit USGS.gov, and follow us on Twitter @USGS and our other social media channels. Subscribe to our news releases via email, RSS or Twitter.

2016 Tribal Council Application

Application for names to be placed on the 2016 ballot for candidates in the Siletz Tribal Council election

Name: _____ Roll#: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

I understand I must be an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon and 18 years of age or older. This application must be filed with the Election Board by **4 p.m. on Dec. 18, 2015**. I also understand that if for any reason I decide to withdraw my application for Siletz Tribal Council, I must withdraw in writing by **Dec. 28, 2015 (12 p.m.)**. Otherwise, my name will appear in the voter’s pamphlet and on the ballot.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail your application to: CTSI Election Board, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549.

Voter’s Pamphlet and Statement

If you would like your candidate’s statement and photo to appear in the Voter’s Pamphlet, please submit your statement and recent 3x5 photograph of yourself along with your application. Deadline for statements and photos is **Dec 18, 2015, at 4 p.m.**

Candidate statements must be no longer than 750 words and must not be derogatory or contain personal attacks on any one individual. Statements and photos will appear in the voter’s pamphlet. Photos will be included on the ballot. Mail your statement and photo to CTSI Election Board, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549.

The candidate is responsible to ensure receipt of application and statement by the deadline. Letters will be sent to all candidates after review and certification by the Election Board.

Candidates can call 800-922-1399, ext. 1256, or 541-444-8256; or email elections@ctsi.nsn.us to confirm receipt of application and candidate’s statement.

Election Deadlines

4 p.m.	Dec. 18, 2015	Deadline to file for candidacy
4 p.m.	Dec. 18, 2015	Deadline to submit a photo and/or candidate’s statement for inclusion in the Tribal Voter’s Pamphlet
2 p.m.	Dec. 28, 2015	Certified Candidate’s List posted
Week of:	Jan. 4-6, 2016	Absentee ballots mailed out/Voter’s Pamphlet
9 a.m. – Noon	TBA	Candidates Fair – Chinook Winds
4 p.m.	Jan. 25, 2016	Deadline to request a mail-in ballot
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Feb. 6, 2016	In-person voting – Tribal Elections, Tribal Community Center, Siletz
4 p.m.	Feb. 6, 2016	Deadline for returning absentee ballots

When you call the Siletz Clinic ...

When you call the Siletz Community Health Clinic at 541-444-1030 or 800-648-0449, you can choose from the following:

- Schedule or confirm a dental appointment, press 1
- Schedule or confirm an optometry appointment, press 2
- Schedule or confirm a medical appointment, press 3
- Pharmacy refill line, press 4
- Pharmacy staff, press 5
- Contract Health Services, press 6
- Behavioral Health, press 7
- Address, phone and fax, press 8
- Listen to options again, press 9
- All other options, dial 0

CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICES

Preventing Denials

1. When using CHS, you must have **every** appointment pre-authorized by obtaining an authorization number within 24 hours of services rendered.
2. If you’re going to a specialist appointment (not your primary care physician), it must be approved through Gatekeeping. This means your doctor must fax referrals and chart notes by Tuesday of each week for consideration on Wednesday morning. If approved through Gatekeeping, you must then obtain an authorization number from your CHS worker within 24 hours of appointment.
3. When going to the ER or urgent care, you must notify CHS within 72 hours of the visit. The ER and urgent care must be a last resort – if the service is deemed inappropriate, CHS will not cover the service. You must utilize your primary care doctor when possible.
4. CHS requires you to apply for alternate resources. This means you are required to apply for the Oregon Health Plan if you do not have other insurance, such as Moda, Blue Cross/Blue Shield or Medicare. If you are over-income for alternate resources, you can provide that proof to CHS and they can issue a waiver for that year.

CHS Phone Numbers

Toll-free – 800-628-5720

Local – 541-444-1236

Fax – 541-444-9645