

PET INTOXICATION EVENTS

What to do when you think your pet has succumbed to intoxication from a harmful algal bloom (aka blue-green algae, cyanobacteria)

- 1) Immediately transport your pet to the veterinarian
 - a. If possible, collect some source water (lake/stream/river) using a disposable water bottle (rinsing with lake/river water before final collection)
- 2) Antemortem samples
 - a. Vomit
 - i. If the animal vomits, collect vomit/stomach contents in a bag or bottle and immediately place in the refrigerator
 - b. Urine
 - i. Collect any urine excreted by the pet after exposure and immediately refrigerate or freeze
 - ii. Volume: 0.5 – 50 mL
- 3) Post-Mortem samples
 - a. Stomach contents
 - i. If any stomach contents are available, collect and store as described for antemortem vomit
 - b. Urine
 - i. If urine is present, collect and store as described for antemortem urine
 - c. Organs
 - i. Excise organs and individually pack them in whirl-bags, plastic bags or bottles
 - ii. Weight: 0.5 – 10 grams
 - iii. In order of importance collect the kidney (neurotoxins and hepatotoxins), liver (neurotoxins and hepatotoxins) and brain (neurotoxins)
 - iv. Freeze organs immediately after collection
- 4) All samples
 - a. Double bag samples to prevent cross-contamination
- 5) Go to <http://greenwaterlab.com> to download and fill out our COC (Chain of Custody)
- 6) Ship samples
 - a. Pack samples (tightly sealed and individually packed) on dry ice in a Styrofoam cooler
 - b. Label samples using a waterproof pen (e.g. Sharpie) with the "Sample ID"
 - c. Put the filled out COC in a plastic bag in the cooler with samples
 - d. Ship **overnight** to GreenWater Laboratories:

GreenWater Laboratories/CyanoLab
205 Zeagler Drive, Suite 302
Palatka, FL 32177

- e. Please contact the lab prior to shipping (email or phone) so we know when to expect the samples.

Phone: (386) 328-0882
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Cyano
LAB