

Invasive of the Week Watch: Cylindro

By: Tanner Ruechel

“Blue – green algae” is a common term publicly associated with closed beaches and bad health effects. There are many different species of cyanobacteria that fall under the shared term of blue-green algae. While many of them are native, Cylindro is an invasive blue – green algae found in the neighboring Castle Rock and Petenwell Lakes.

Cylindro thrives off of warm, still water full of nutrients like phosphorus and nitrogen, which are all to present in Lake Redstone. High water clarity can also contribute to algae growth, Dutch Hollow is known for how clear its waters are but this could leave it vulnerable to algae blooms. Beaches are often closed due to blue – green algae because of the toxins that the organism can release, which can be in dangerous concentrations during bloom. These toxins can cause symptoms to people and pets including nausea, headache, liver damage, and dermatitis. Unlike natives, Cylindro often doesn't form a layer of scum on the surface when blooming, but is suspended in the water column. This minor difference prevents easy detection and could leave people and pets at risk of ingesting the toxins it produces.



If you would like to keep your beaches safe from Cylindro and prevent other invasive species from finding their way to Lake Redstone and Dutch Hollow Lake, please offer to volunteer a few hours before Labor Day with Clean Boats Clean Waters by contacting Tanner Ruechel through email ruechelt@gmail.com or phone (920) 621-3282.

Additionally, if you volunteer **5 hours** by Labor Day you can spend a day at the Wilderness Waterpark Resort for **FREE**. Contact Tanner for details.