

## Algal Blooms

If the water is discolored or appears to be thick, viscous or scummy, the following precautions are advised:

- Avoid areas with visible algae and/or scums. Direct contact and ingestion are associated with the greatest health risk.
- If no scums are visible, but water shows a strong greenish discoloration such that you cannot see your feet when standing knee deep (after sediment has settled) avoid bathing, immersion of head, and/or ingestion.
- Avoid waterskiing in visible scums or waters with a strong greenish coloration as described above because of the potentially substantial risk of exposure to aerosols.
- If sailing, sailboarding or undertaking any other activity likely to involve accidental immersion, wear clothing that is loose fitting in the openings. Use of wet suits for water sports may result in greater risk of rashes, as the algal material trapped in the wet suit will be in contact with the skin for longer periods of time.
- After coming ashore, shower or wash to remove algal material.

**Additional information about algal blooms is available online at [www.muskegonhealth.net](http://www.muskegonhealth.net).**