OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

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PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY AUGUST 20, 2021

On August 20, 2021 the Board of Health received results of a water quality sample taken at the Town Beach. The results indicate presence of Blue-green algae at concentrations prompting a "**No Swimming"** advisory. Therefore, the Board of Health is closing the Town Beach and Thurston's Cove for swimming, and issuing an advisory for "No Swimming" for Bare Hill Pond in its entirety.

A "**No Swimming"** advisory means no "in water" activities for people or pets. "On the water" activities can occur with the following precautions:

- > Avoid Harmful Blue-green algae blooms, while fishing and during boating activities.
- If contact occurs, rinse skin with clean water. If skin rash or illness occurs, contact a medical provider.
- If removing a boat from the water, wash the boat thoroughly with clean water before transport.

For more information, please see:

www.mass.gov/info-details/harmful-algae-blooms-in-freshwater-bodies

https://www.harvard-ma.gov/board-health

To stay informed of this evolving situation, residents should sign up for alerts from the Board of Health and the Town Administrator at the following link: <u>www.harvard.ma.us/subscribe</u>