

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HAB Monitoring Volunteers Appreciation Event

The Keuka Lake Association (KLA) sponsored an appreciation event to thank all the 2024 Harmful Algal Bloom (HABs) shoreline monitors at the LyonSmith Brewing Company located in Keuka Park on Sunday, September 22. The KLA has organized this group of volunteers working in conjunction with NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to observe and keep track of Harmful Algal Blooms appearing on Keuka Lake. This event was held to thank the monitors for all their efforts in monitoring and reporting HABs along the shoreline of Keuka Lake.

Sue Oliver, vice president of the KLA and chair of the Water Quality committee stated, “we have sixty-three (63) volunteers monitoring 67 sites along Keuka Lake starting in June through October. It was a great effort put forth by all our volunteers.”

Bob Lambert, chair of HABs monitor program stated, “our many KLA shoreline volunteers have played a critical role in identifying the 15 HABs (harmful algal blooms) recorded on Keuka Lake so far this season. Today it is our pleasure to honor them.”

These volunteers have monitored various sites on Keuka Lake for Harmful Algal Blooms starting in the late spring and continuing through the fall. These monitoring activities help to keep the community aware of the presence of harmful algal blooms and the hazards they can cause. HABs can be a problem in any freshwater lake particularly during the warm weather months of the summer. The event was attended by approximately 30 monitors, guest and other KLA members.

About Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) in freshwater generally consist of cyanobacteria (also referred to as blue-green algae). Cyanobacteria are naturally present in low numbers in most marine and freshwater systems but under certain conditions, particularly high nutrients and warm temperatures, the organisms can begin to multiply rapidly and form blooms. Several types of cyanobacteria have the potential to produce toxins and other harmful compounds that can pose a health risk to people and animals through ingestion, skin contact, or inhalation. The New York State DEC suggests avoiding contact with any water that is discolored or has algal scums on the surface.

About the Keuka Lake Association

Founded in 1956, the Keuka Lake Association (KLA), with over 1500 members, provides a unified voice for those who love Keuka Lake. Membership includes lakeshore property owners, watershed residents, recreational users, and local businesses. Our mission is to preserve and protect Keuka Lake and its natural beauty for future generations. The KLA targets five areas for management and improvement – lake level control, water quality, land use, recreational use, and conservation.

For more information or to become a member go to
<https://www.keukalakeassociation.org/membership.php>