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SWFWMD and BOCC Pinellas April 26, 2022

I sent a video to the Water District *last week* concerning Wall Spring in Palm Harbor. This photograph (aswell) displays the algae that is upwelling from *within* the aquifer. The algae is reflective of the fact that the aquifer has been compromised. Such Blue-Green algae *typically* indicates the presence of cyanobacteria. And, such algae is regarded as toxic ~ (microcystins) (saxitoxin)

Cyanotoxicity is a sign that the water is contaminated. And, that something in the water is in the process of rotting or decaying, causing elevated Nitrate or EuTrophic conditions; Such as the *inappropriate* discharge of sewage or the “nutrient load” associated with feces/fecal matter decomposing, thus *causing* harmful or even *deadly levels* of bacteria to be present in the water.

Other reasons for cyanobacteria may result from the use of fertilizers and commercial use of lawn pesticides *flowing* into nearby lakes or streams and *leaching* down into the aquifer.

Often when various types of Blue-Green algae (Spirogyra, Oscillatoria, Lyngba, Pithophora) are found to be present in a body of water, the practice of applying Aquatic Herbicides is often used to destroy the algae and conceal or mask the symptoms of toxic algae growth. Aquatic Herbicides (such as the spraying of Copper Diquats in the water) may kill toxic algae. But, the water supply is still contaminated. And, the solution to the problem has “Failed” to qualify as anything other than a cover-up operation..

I am calling on this board to *Act Decisively* and “forbid” any further use of lawn fertilizers and to place a moratorium on commercial use of lawn pesticides. Aswell as opposing the Direct injecting of Reclaimed Water into the aquifer as such practices have proven to destabilize the quality of our water supply. And, is an “unwarranted” form of grey water disposal.

