

Town of East Hampton

Building Code and Enforcement Official

The Building Code and Enforcement Official protects the safety and health of citizens by ensuring that buildings and land are in accordance with housing, building and other ordinances. This position is responsible for town-wide code inspection and compliance. Work involves interpretation and application of the state building codes

General Description

The Building Code and Enforcement Official inspects and investigates properties and buildings in an effort to determine the nature of environmental or health hazards, nuisance violations and unsafe building conditions. The Building Code and Enforcement Official issues permits or citations in accordance with regulations. In addition, they must understand and comply with state and federal regulations on land usage, zoning, business permits and building access.

Supervision Received

The Building Code and Enforcement Official reports to and works under the general direction of the Town Manager.

~~Nature of Work~~

~~Responsible for town-wide code inspection and compliance, work, and assisting the administrator of the Building Department. Work involves interpretation and application of the state building codes. Works under the general direction of the Town Manager. Works under the general direction of Administrator of Planning, Zoning & Building.~~

Supervision Exercised

Supervises assigned staff.

Examples of Work Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Code Enforcement
- Receives, reviews, issues permits for building and construction industry
- Compliance reviews per codes for proposed building construction/renovation
- Inspection of new construction, renovations/alterations of buildings for code and legal compliance with approved plans.
- Investigates and takes action on violations of codes, zoning laws, hazardous structures, blight and takes action to abate same.
- ~~Plan reviews and compliance determinations concerning proposed construction activities.~~

General

- Makes test of building materials and equipment as required
- Makes recommendations for corrective action to abate violations
- Provides technical direction to other town departments in matters relating to the responsibility of the office
- Maintains records and reports of activities
- Answers inquires, gives guidance and investigates complaints relating to areas of jurisdiction
- Prepares various reports pertaining to areas of jurisdiction.
- Performs Fire Marshal duties as needed.

- Attends public meetings as required.
- Performs all other duties as bBuilding Code & Enforcement Official staff assistant to the Town Manager.
- Performs related work as required

Nonessential Duties

Assists Town staff in other related municipal projects. Works in conjunction with the land use boards and commissions.

Desirable Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Thorough knowledge of methods of building construction, plumbing, electrical and mechanical systems and troubleshooting malfunctions or causing same to be analyzed.
- Considerable ability to interpret state and local codes, regulation and ordinances including, but not limited to B.O.C.A., A.D.A. Zoning, etc.
- Ability to interpret blueprints, drawings and specifications.
- Ability to inspect projects and installations in various states of progress and to evaluation material and workmanship for compliance with codes, laws and regulations and quality in workmanship.
- Ability to deal effectively with associates, subordinates, the general public and others contacted in the work, as well as supervise
- Ability to supervise staff.
- Ability in written and oral expression.
- Ability to maintain records.

Desirable Experience and Training Preferred Qualifications

Extensive experience in building construction, including site preparations, mechanical systems, or inspector or designer of building and construction; or an equivalent combination of above experience and training including the specialized experience mentioned above. Must be licensed as a Building Official by the State of Connecticut within 1 year of appointment. Fire Marshal certification required. Must hold a valid Connecticut's driver's license.

Special Requirements

- Excellent organizational skills.
- Team player and motivator.
- Ability to interact successfully with staff, Town Officials, volunteers and the public.
- Computer literacy required.
- Must possess and maintain a valid Connecticut driver's license and good driving record.

Work Environment

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of the job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individual with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee must be able to traverse rough terrain during site and construction inspections. Must take protective measures when on construction sites and occasional exposure to extreme weather conditions. The employee may work in outside weather conditions. The Employee is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions, or airborne particles. The noise level in the work environment is usually quiet in the office and moderate to loud in the field. Must be able to concentrate on fine detail with some interruption. Frequent driving.

General Guidelines

The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

The job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.

Town of East Hampton

PLANNING AND ZONING ADMINISTRATOR/OFFICIAL

The Planning and Zoning Official is the local government official responsible for administering and enforcing the zoning code and land development regulations, including the issuance of zoning permits. The Planning and Zoning Official frequently has to interpret provisions of the code as they apply to many specific situations.

General Description Nature of Work

As head of ~~the Planning Department~~, responsible for the coordination of land use activities in Town, including, but not limited to: working with the Town Manager, Planning and Zoning Commission, Inland/Wetlands-Conservation Commission, Economic Development Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Water and Sewer Commission, Housing Authority, Park and Recreation Commission and other land use boards, commissions and agencies as necessary. Attend agency meetings as required. Coordinate planning activities among building, health, public works, public safety, and school departments. Coordinate and provide guidance on local, regional, state and federal policies where possible. Works under the general direction of the **Town Manager**, and in matters of staff assistance works with the Planning and Zoning Commission and other land use boards as needed. Shall be responsible for monitoring compliance with land use laws/ordinances, subdivision regulations and zoning regulations. Works ~~aswith~~ the zoning enforcement/wetlands officer(s) in providing information and technical assistance guidance.

Supervision Received

The Planning and Zoning Official reports to and works under the general direction of the Town Manager.

Supervision Exercised

Supervises assigned staff.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities Examples of Work

- Receives and reviews subdivision/zoning applications, wetlands applications and all other planning and zoning commission applications and evaluates site plans.
- Refers plans to other officials for comment as required, consults with Town Engineer, public works and state agencies as necessary.
- Provides technical assistance to the Town Manager, including research, grant application assistance, and other duties as required.
- Attends regularly scheduled meetings of the Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland/Wetlands-Conservation Commissions as staff assistant.
- May attend other board/commission/agency meetings as required.
- Recommends specific revisions and updates of Plan of Development
- Promotes open space/conservation/and balance planning issues in Town.
- Enforces both land use and inland wetland regulations.
- Investigates complaints and issues enforcement of regulation violations.
- Performs all other duties as a land use **staff assistant** to the Town Manager.
- Performs related work as required.

Nonessential Duties

Assists Town staff in other related municipal projects. Works in conjunction with the land use boards and commissions.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities Desirable Training and Experience

- Thorough knowledge of land use planning and those issues confronting a growing rural/suburban community.

- Considerable ability to interpret state and local regulations, laws, and ordinances.
- Ability to interpret plans and specifications and work with engineers, surveyors and other land use/development professionals.
- Ability to monitor and evaluate projects, sites and development proposals to ensure that the interests of the Town are safeguarded.
- Strong writing and oral expression abilities.
- Ability to deal effectively with associates, subordinates, the general public and others contacted in performance of duties.
- Excellent organizational and coordination skills.

Preferred Qualifications Desirable Training and Experience

Master's degree in planning and minimum one-year experience in a similar position preferred. Supervisory experience and proven experience in budget preparation required. Other combinations of education and experience may be considered.

Special Requirements

- Excellent organizational skills.
- Team player and motivator.
- Ability to interact successfully with staff, Town Officials, volunteers and the public.
- Computer literacy required.
- Must possess and maintain a valid Connecticut driver's license and good driving record.

Physical Demands

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Work is performed in office settings and outdoor work is required in the inspection of various land use developments and construction sites. Some evening and weekend work will be required. Hand-eye coordination is necessary to operate computers and various pieces of office equipment. While performing the duties of this job the employee is frequently required to talk; sit; use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate objects, tools, or controls, and reach with hands and arms. The employee is required to stand and walk on uneven ground and through wooded and bushy areas and constructions sites. The employee is required to climb or balance; stoop; kneel, crouch or crawl and smell. Must be able to speak and hear clearly. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 10 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus.

Work Environment

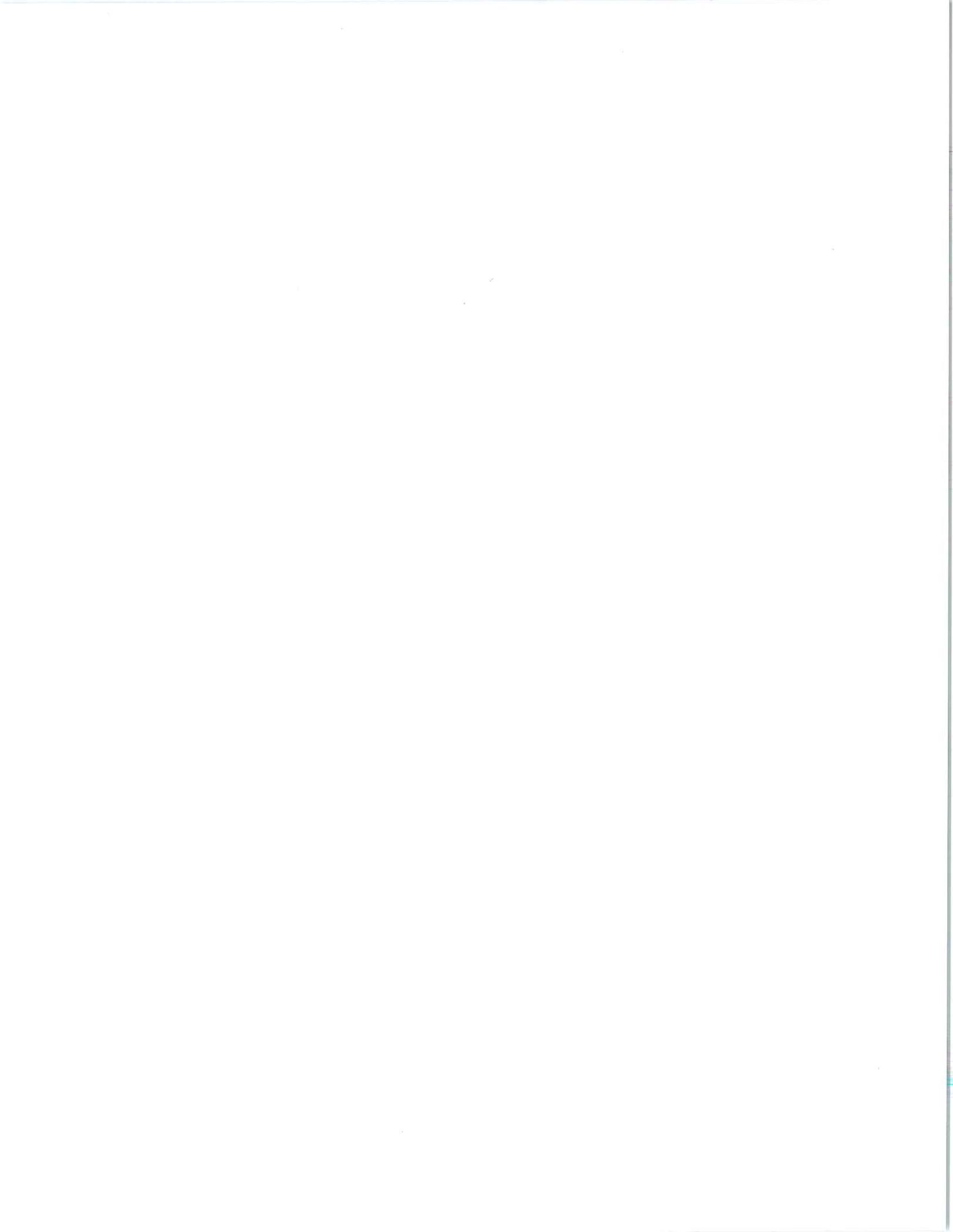
The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those and employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee must be able to traverse rough terrain during site and construction inspections. Must take protective measures when on construction sites and occasional exposure to extreme weather conditions. The employee may work in outside weather conditions. The employee is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions, or airborne particles. The noise level in the work environment is usually quiet in the office and moderate to loud in the field. Must be able to concentrate on fine detail with some interruption. Frequent driving.

General Guidelines

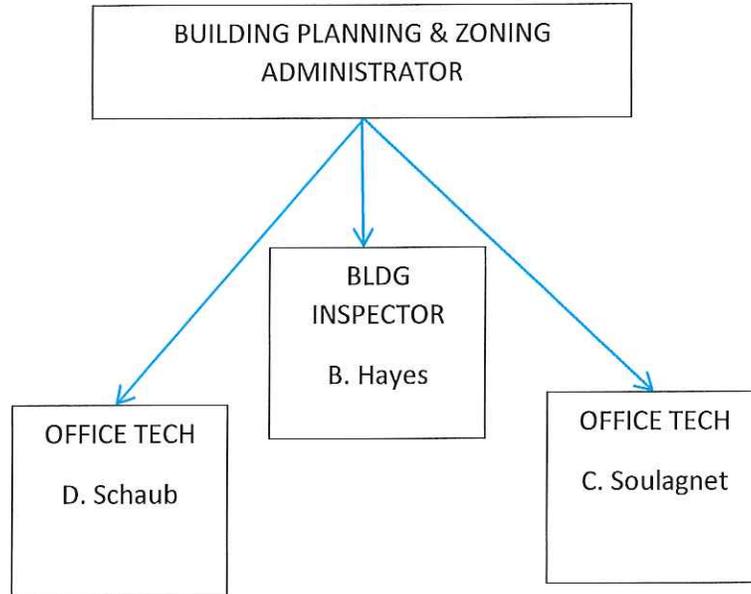
The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

The job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.

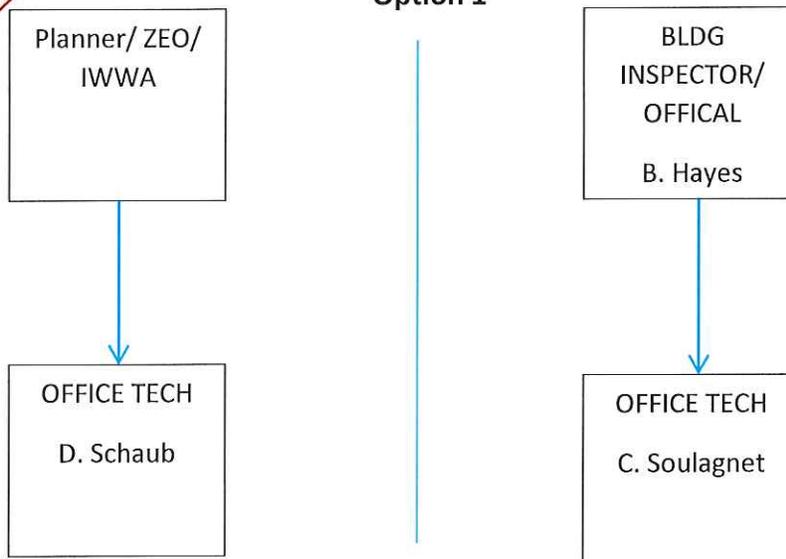


Department Organizational Recommendations

Current Department Structure



Option 1



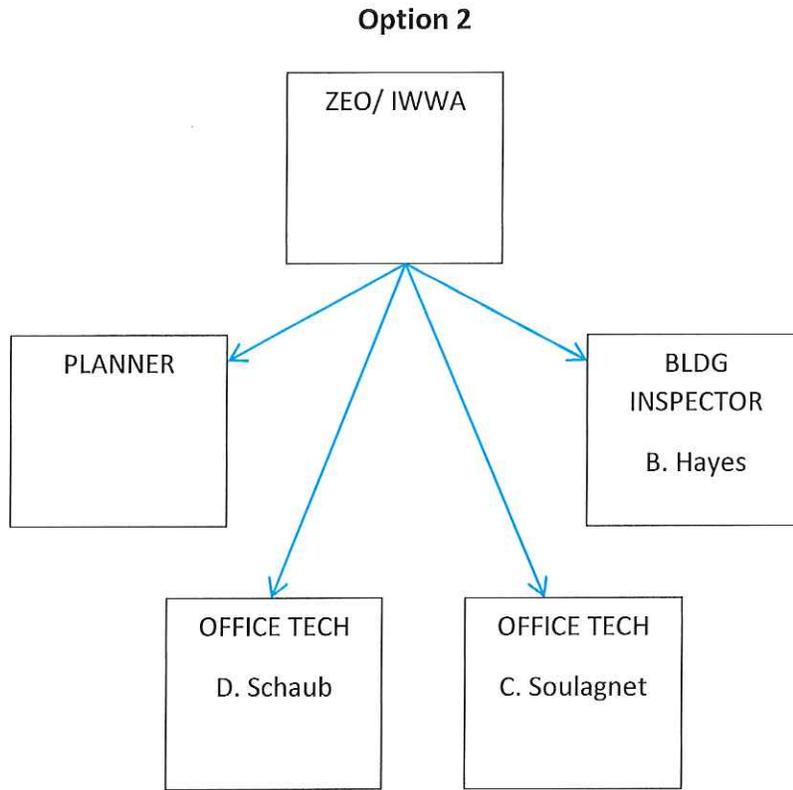
Recommended
Option

OPTION 1

Divides the functions of the department and makes two positions that supervise OFFICE TECH.

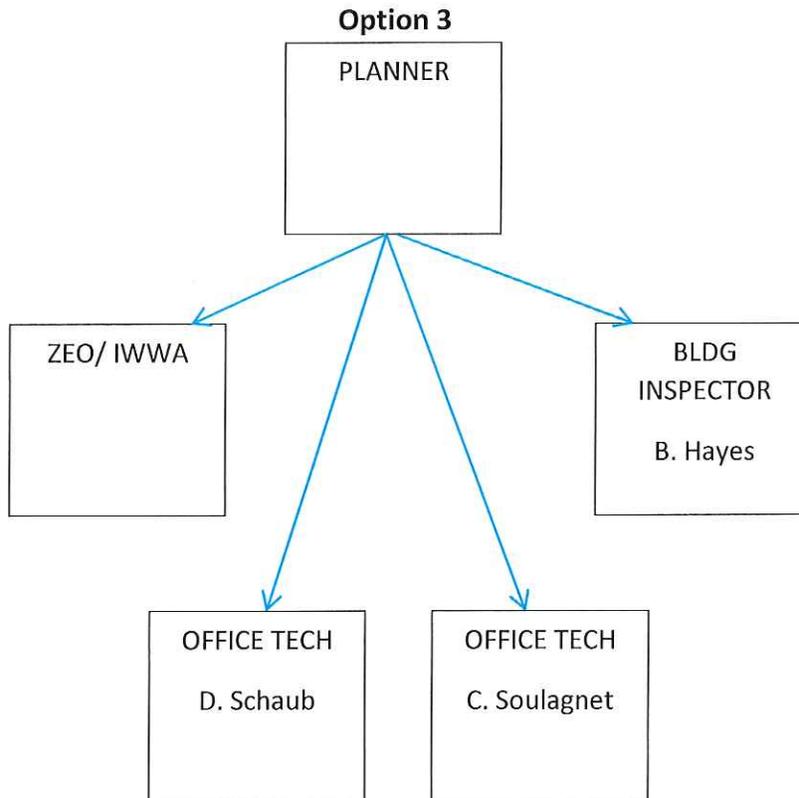
OPTION 2

Breaks responsibilities of current position into two positions with the ZEO in the supervisory capacity.



OPTION 3

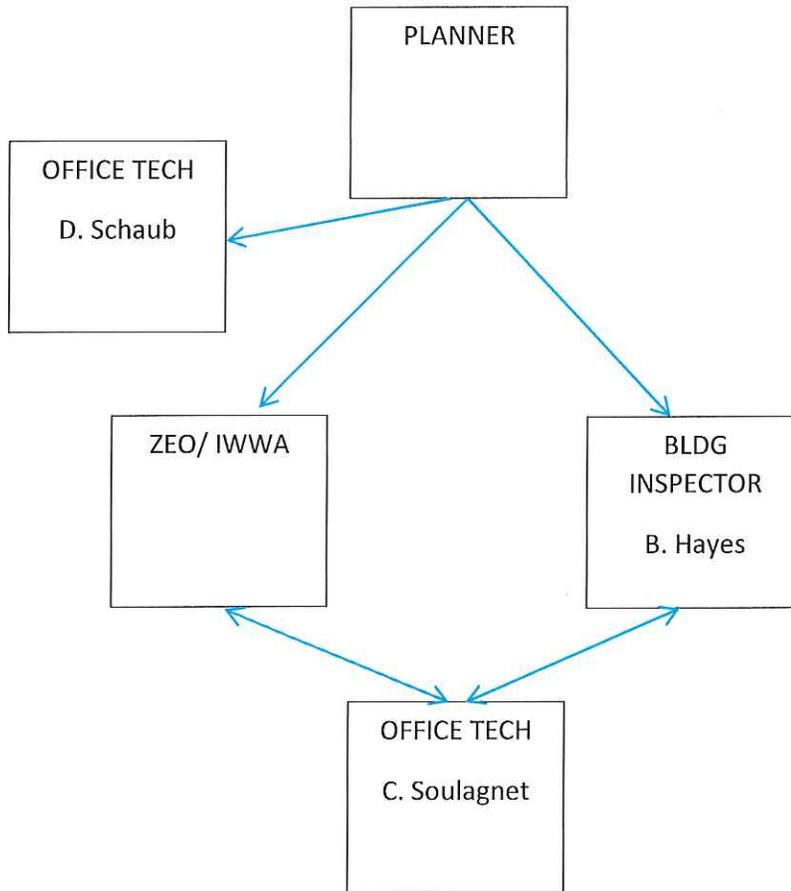
Breaks responsibilities of current position into two positions with the Planner in the supervisory capacity.



Option 4

OPTION 4

More of a traditional Org. structure it places the Planner as the Supervisor of the department with a Tech as direct support. The ZEO and Building Insp share a Tech.



Salary Information from CCM 2014 Survey

Average Salary

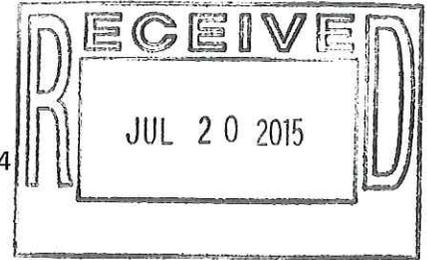
Planner-	\$86,418.27
Zoning Official-	\$55,809.28

Recommended Range

Planner-	\$70,000 to \$85,000
Zoning Official-	\$50,000 to \$70,000

Jim Carey Salary after contract negotiations \$115,501

14 Fernwood Drive
East Hampton, CT. 06424
July 20, 2015
860-267-0664



Town Council, Town of East Hampton
Barbara Moore Chairperson
20 East High Street
East Hampton, CT 06424

Dear Mrs Moore

I am presently an Alternate on the East Hampton High School Building Committee, and I would like Town Council authorization to be a full voting member of the committee. My current assignments and duties for which I have volunteered go far beyond the 'job description' for Alternate in the resolution establishing the committee. Specifically, I serve with two other committee members on the Fiscal sub-committee, and as Committee representatives to the Owner/Architect/CM meeting held bi-weekly with Downes Construction Company. My active participation on these sub-committees and at all regular Committee meetings is the reason for this request to be afforded full committee member status.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas Seydewitz".

Thomas Seydewitz

cc Sharon Smith Chairperson EHHSBC



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Bathing Water Sampling



Beach or bathing water quality is measured by the presence of enterococcal organisms (a group of organisms that may indicate the presence of potentially harmful bacteria). The State of Connecticut has issued guidelines for bathing water quality – generally a concentration of enterococcal organisms exceeding 235 colonies per 100ml of fresh water is considered unsatisfactory for bathing.

The Chatham Health District wants to ensure that your day at the beach doesn't result in illness related to poor water quality. At least once a week from mid-May to mid-September, one of our Sanitarians collects water samples from different bathing areas in the District. The water sample is sent to the state laboratory for analysis. When we receive the test results we compare them with the guidelines, if they are not satisfactory, we re-sample the water to double check the result. If the second test confirms the level, a bathing advisory is posted at that location. We will continue to monitor the site, and remove the posting as soon as the levels are safe.

- [Beach Guidelines for Monitoring Bathing Water and Closing Protocols](#)
- [Guidance for Blue-Green Algae Blooms in Recreational Freshwaters](#)
- [Bathing Water and Blue-Green Algae Monitoring and Notification Policy](#)

Bathing Water Map Sampling Sites

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Thad D King MPH RS

Calchester, East Fladdam, East Hampton, Fladdam, Helbron, Marlborough, & Portland

Bathing Water and Blue-Green Algae Monitoring and Notification Policy

1. Beginning the first week of August, unless in consultation with the Town, conditions warrant beginning earlier, the municipal swim area will be visually inspected and ranked by CHD using guidelines from CT DPH and the chart below:

Observations	Notifications	Further monitoring	Public Posting
Visual Rank Category 1 or Secchi Disk Transparency > 2 meters	Not needed	No change	Not needed
Visual Rank Category 2, or blue-green algae cells >20k/ml and < 100k or Secchi Disk Transparency 1-2 meters	Notify CT DPH, CT DEEP	Increase regular visual surveillance until conditions change.	Consider cautionary postings at public access points. (See Appendix C, Example B - (DPH Guidance June 2014)
Visual Rank Category 3, or blue-green algae cells > 100k/ml or Secchi Disk Transparency < 1 meter	Update/inform CT DPH & CT DEEP and expand risk communication efforts. (See Risk Communication section.)	Collect samples for analysis and/or increase frequency of visual assessment.	POSTED BEACH CLOSURE: If public has beach access, alert water users that a blue-green algae bloom is present. (See Appendix C, Example A) POSTED ADVISORY: At other impacted access points. (See Appendix C, Example C) - (DPH Guidance June 2014)

Bathing Water and Blue-Green Algae Monitoring and Notification Policy

2. If a Category 2 condition exists from visual observation, confirmation of cell counts with lake water testing will begin. Testing will be conducted weekly by CHD staff.
3. Each week the Visual Category will be determined based on the testing criteria in the guidelines. Testing will be posted at the Town website.
4. Notification will be provided to DEEP and DPH of Category status 2 or higher; Charles Lee, DEEP, Stewart Chute, DPH
5. Public notification including the visual chart will be provided at the Town website; and updated weekly. CHD will mirror the information at its website.
6. If a Category 3 condition exists, Municipal swim aresa will be posted closed due to blue-green algae. Reopening will require two consecutive weeks of cell counts less than 70,000/ml and microcystin level less than 15 ug/l.

DRAFT



Guidance to Local Health Departments For Blue–Green Algae Blooms in Recreational Freshwaters



June 2014

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Blue-green algae, also known as cyanobacteria, occur naturally in lakes and ponds throughout Connecticut. These microscopic organisms are components of the aquatic food chain. In ordinary circumstances, cyanobacteria cause no apparent harm, however warmer water temperatures and high nutrient concentrations may induce a rapid increase in their abundance. This response is commonly called a “bloom” because algal biomass increases to the extent that normally clear water becomes markedly turbid. This tainted water takes on a green, blue-green or reddish-brown colored hue.

In Connecticut during the summer of 2012, an algae bloom in Lower Bolton Lake raised concerns with the local community and the news media. The response was managed by local health officials with input from stakeholders and State agencies. In anticipation of further algae blooms in subsequent summers, the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH) and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP), in collaboration with the Connecticut Association of Directors of Health (CADH), have produced this interim response plan for Connecticut local health officials. This document outlines the rationale for a response and presents a scheme for surveillance and intervention designed to protect the public’s health at lakes or ponds used for recreation. The scheme presented is based on precedent from other States. In future years it is likely that this guidance will change subsequent to input from local health officials.

Blue-green algae biomass can contain a mix of toxins, including skin irritants and potent liver toxins. The blue-green algae genera and some of their associated toxins are listed in Table 1.

Table 1: A list of the most common known blue-green algae toxins and their origin (World Health Organization, 1999):

Toxin	Cyanobacteria Genera
Microcystin	<i>Microcystis, Anabaena, Oscillatoria, Nostoc, Anabaenopsis, & more</i>
Anatoxin-a	<i>Anabaena, Aphanizomenon</i>
Cylindrospermopsin	<i>Cylindrospermopsis, Aphanizomenon</i>
Saxitoxins	<i>Anabaena, Cylindrospermopsis, Aphanizomenon, & more</i>
Lipopolysaccharides	All

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The Connecticut General Statutes outlines enforcement authority under Chapter 98, Municipal Powers. Section 7-148 states that municipalities have the power to “control and operate” recreation places, public beaches and beach facilities. They also have the power to “regulate and prohibit swimming or bathing in the public or exposed places within the municipality”. The CT Public Health Code does not include a pertinent regulation specific for lakes and ponds, however; section 19-13-B34 may apply to impoundments.

SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE PATHWAYS

For those recreating on or near an affected water body, the route of direct exposure to toxins from blue-green algae may be via ingestion, breathing, or contact with skin. Ingestion for this recreational scenario is possible when swimming. For example, EPA’s Exposure Factors Handbook (US EPA, 2011) states that boys actively playing ingest 60 ml water in one hour of swimming. It therefore may be necessary to take measures to block the oral and dermal potential exposure pathways by prohibiting swimming during a blue-green algae bloom. As ingestion of relatively large quantities of algae-tainted water can cause serious harm, pet owners should not let their pets swim in an algal bloom. As algae blooms do not occur in groundwater, drinking water wells in the vicinity of the affected lake are not at risk of contamination from potential migration of the algal cells or toxins through groundwater into nearby wells.

Other recreational activities may involve direct exposure and it may be prudent to advise the participating public to avoid direct contact with an algae bloom. These other recreational activities have been compiled and ranked according to relative risk and the published table is reproduced here as Table 2.

Table 2: Generalized list of primary exposure pathways of concern for cyanotoxins during recreational activities (Bress & Stone, 2007).

Level of Potential Exposure	Recreational Activity	Primary Exposure Pathway of Concern
High	Swimming/wading	Ingestion
	Diving	Ingestion
	Water skiing/wake boarding	Ingestion/inhalation
	Wind surfing	Ingestion/inhalation
	Jet skiing	Ingestion/inhalation
Moderate	Fish consumption *	Ingestion
	Canoeing	Inhalation/skin
	Rowing	Inhalation/skin
	Sailing	Inhalation/skin
	Kayaking	Inhalation/skin
	Motor boating	Inhalation
Low/none	Catch and Release fishing	Skin

*Fish living in waters affected by a blue-green algae bloom may accumulate algal toxins in their muscle tissue and internal organs. However the health risk posed by consumption of such fish is uncertain. Toxin levels are usually higher in internal organs than in the muscle tissue. General precautionary advice to anglers to reduce exposure includes:

- Avoid fishing in areas with visible algae blooms due to potential incidental contact with the water.
- Eat fish from water bodies with blue-green algae blooms in moderation (1-2 meals per week.)
- Remove skin and internal organs before cooking. Wash fillets before cooking or freezing

The following guidance is organized in two parts. Part one covers surveillance and part two covers interventions for declaring and terminating an algae bloom advisory.

PART 1: SURVEILLANCE AND BLUE-GREEN ALGAE BLOOM CATEGORIZATION

The initial method for surveillance is visual and based on a categorization scheme developed and implemented by the State of Vermont. (Vermont Department of Health, 2008). As is outlined in the Vermont document, the purpose of visual surveillance is to assess bloom development at a beach site. If there is no evidence of a blue-green algae bloom, the site is ranked as Category 1. Observations suggestive or indicative of an algae bloom are classified, respectively, as Category 2 or Category 3. The Vermont guidance is summarized in Table 3. Refer also to the Vermont guidance document for representative photos. ([VT guidance for communities](#))

Table 3: Summary of the Vermont visual classification scheme:

Category	Description
One	Visible material is not likely cyanobacteria or water is generally clear.
Two	Cyanobacteria present in low numbers. There are visible small accumulations but water is generally clear.
Three	Cyanobacteria present in high numbers. Scums may or may not be present. Water is discolored throughout. Large areas affected. Color assists to rule out sediment and other algae.

Surveillance is most needed in mid to late summer when algae bloom events are most likely. Reports or complaints from the public or staff require confirmation. Confirmation can be facilitated by consulting someone with prior field experience. Options for consultation include DEEP staff or a professional Limnologist. If such help is not available, health officials in Connecticut should consult the resources available from other State’s web sites or the contacts listed in the Additional Resources section of this document. Digital photos of the bloom can provide documentation that could help determine the appropriate course of action

Laboratory identification and quantification is a reasonable alternative if confirmation cannot be obtained via a visual assessment. If algae bloom species are quantified, then 20,000-100,000 blue-green algae cells/ml is generally considered the low-end concentration associated with an algae bloom. A list of available laboratories is included in the Appendix. In subsequent years, the State Public Health Laboratory may be added to this list.

PART 2: INTERVENTIONS

This section outlines intervention strategies for the observational phase and the evaluation phase of a blue-green algae bloom. Interventions are described in Table 4. A reasonable protocol may be as follows:

- 1) Visit the site of a reported bloom.
- 2) If justifiable (Category 2), notify State Agencies
- 3) Continue regular field observations. (See example field observation form in Appendix.)
- 4) If conditions deteriorate to Category 3, post the site and the area.
- 5) When visual conditions improve, take a water sample for microscopic analysis.
- 6) Wait approximately one week and sample again.
- 7) A: If justifiable, terminate the posting.
B: Otherwise wait approximately one more week and sample again.
- 8) Repeat step 7 until termination or the end of the summer recreational season.

A) Guidance for Declaring an algae bloom Advisory

CT DPH recommends the following interventions based on results of the surveillance method described above. When issuing an advisory take note of all access points. Depending on the size of the bloom relative to the lake, and the location of the access point relative to the bloom, some access locations may not be impacted.

B) Guidance for Terminating an algae bloom Advisory

Though an algae bloom will wane with time, the health concerns will linger until evidence can confirm that the threat has dissipated. While some States criteria for removing restrictions are based on visual observations over time, most others use a combination of visual observation and environmental laboratory data to validate their visual assessment and to address questions about possible health effects. Laboratory data however has practical limitations due to the logistics of sampling, the extra expense, and long or variable turnaround time. Health officials will thus need to weigh the advantages and disadvantages of collecting environmental laboratory data. Local officials should confer with CT DPH and/or DEEP on the decision to terminate an advisory. The recommended protocol for termination may be based on visual observations over time, or a combination of this taken in concert with laboratory data. The laboratory data approach can be either cell counts or a combination of cell counts and microcystin testing. Yet, as not all blue-green algae blooms produce microcystins, toxin data, alone, is not useful for termination. Obtaining confirmatory biochemical data from a waning blue-green algae bloom may however be justified on grounds that microcystins, can increase as the cells die (Oberholster PJ, 2004).

Health officials may thus justify lifting a blue-green algae bloom posting if observations meet either or both of the following two criteria:

- Visual assessment remains at the Category 1 condition for at least two successive and representative observational rounds one week apart
- Cell count results of the water column indicate that blue-green algal cell abundance has markedly decreased over at least two successive and representative sampling rounds one week apart and is below 70,000 cells per ml.

As the situation requires, health officials may consider additional confirmation through microcystin testing of the water column. As is stated for the above, the water column should be below the threshold for at least two successive and representative sampling rounds one week apart. CT DPH suggests a toxin threshold of 15 ug/l microcystin.

Table 4: Suggested interventions based on field observations or cell count data: Examples of appropriate signage are shown in Appendix C.

Observations	Notifications	Further monitoring	Public Posting
Visual Rank Category 1	Not needed	No change	Not needed
Visual Rank Category 2, or blue-green algae cells >20k/ml and < 100k	Notify CT DPH, CT DEEP	Increase regular visual surveillance until conditions change.	Consider cautionary postings at public access points. (See Appendix C, Example B)
Visual Rank Category 3, or blue-green algae cells > 100k/ml	Update/inform CT DPH & CT DEEP and expand risk communication efforts. (See Risk Communication section.)	Collect samples for analysis and/or increase frequency of visual assessment.	POSTED BEACH CLOSURE: If public has beach access, alert water users that a blue-green algae bloom is present. (See Appendix C, Example A) POSTED ADVISORY: At other impacted access points. (See Appendix C, Example C)

RISK COMMUNICATION

Effective public notification and risk communication are important attributes during and immediately after a blue-green algae bloom. Posting closure signs at swimming areas and advisory signs at other access points used for public recreation is the primary intervention. Further interventions include notifying lake associations and posting information for public access via the internet or local newspapers via a press release. Include information as to how the public can contact the CT DEEP for the most up-to-date information on the status of the blue-green algae bloom. In some communities it

may also be important to notify local Veterinarians and Physicians and keep them updated on the status of the blue-green algae bloom.

SUMMARY

Blue-green algal blooms can be unsafe and local health officials can mitigate the hazard by the surveillance and intervention approaches outlined above. The approaches do not include treatment, but involve implementing strategies that will decrease the extent of the public's exposure.

The approaches recommended in this guidance for monitoring and characterization of blue-green algae bloom events includes visual observation (as is used in Vermont) in conjunction with a measure of blue-green algal cell abundance. If an algal bloom event is evident, then municipalities have the authority to close an impacted beach and/or issue a warning at other access points where recreational activities may involve contact with tainted water.

Blue-green algae blooms wane over time and there is thus the need to ascertain the point in time where an advisory should be removed (i.e.; terminated). The recommendations for termination of an advisory or closure are either based on visual observations over time, or a combination of visual and laboratory data. There are advantages and disadvantages to using environmental data, and the local health official will need to decide which strategy is most appropriate for the situation.

REFERENCES

- Bress, D., & Stone, W. (2007). Addressing Public Health Risks for Cyanobacteria in Recreational Freshwaters: The Oregon and Vermont Framework. *Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management*, 3(1), 137-143.
- Oberholster PJ, B. A. (2004). Microcystis aeruginosa: source of toxic microcystins in drinking water. *African Journal of Biotechnology Vol. 3 (3)*, 159-168.
- US EPA. (2011). *Exposure Factors Handbook*.
- Vermont Department of Health. (2008). *Cyanobacteria (Blue-green Algae) Guidance for Vermont Communities*.
http://healthvermont.gov/enviro/bg_algae/documents/BGA_guide.pdf.
- World Health Organization. (1999). *Toxic Cyanobacteria in Water: A guide to their public health consequences, monitoring and management*. Geneva: E & FN Spon.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For health questions - contact

CTDPH
Stewart Chute, Toxicologist
860-509-7758
Stewart.chute@ct.gov

To report a blue-green algae bloom – contact

CT DEEP
Chuck Lee, Lakes Manager
860-424-3716
algalbloomsCT@ct.gov

LABORATORIES FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE TESTING

<i>EcoAnalysts, Inc</i> 1420 S. Blaine St., Suite 14, Moscow, ID 83843 (Toxin testing, identification and enumeration)	Phone: (208) 882-2588 Fax: (208) 883-4288 eco@ecoanalysts.com
<i>Green Water Laboratories</i> 205 Zeagler Drive, Suite 302, Palatka, Florida 32177 (Toxin testing, identification and enumeration)	Phone: (386) 328-0882 Fax: (386) 328-9646 cyanomail@cyanolab.com
<i>Northeast Laboratories, Inc.</i> 129 Mill Street, Berlin, CT 06037 (Toxin testing, identification and enumeration)	Phone: (860) 828 -9787 Fax (860) 829-1050 alan@nelabsct.com
<i>PhycoTech, Inc</i> 620 Board Street, Suite 100, St. Joseph, MI 49085 (Identification and enumeration)	Phone: (269) 983-3654 Fax: (269) 983-3654 info@phycotech.com
<i>State University of New York</i> College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF) 320 Jahn Lab, 1 Forestry Drive, Syracuse, New York 13210 (Toxin testing, identification and enumeration)	Phone: (315) 470-6855 Fax: (315) 470-6856 glboyer@esf.edu

INTERNET LINKS

[CDC fact sheet on algal blooms for veterinarians](#)

[VT guidance for communities](#)

[EPA Cyanobacterial Harmful Algal Blooms \(CyanoHABs\)](#)

[Massachusetts DPH Protect Your Pets From HABs](#)

[Maine DEP Web page](#)

[New Hampshire DES webpage](#)

[New York State DOH Information Bulletin](#)

[Ohio DH Fact Sheet](#)

[Oregon DEQ: Water Quality - Harmful Algal Blooms](#)

APPENDIX

Section A: Connecticut DEEP Proposed Cyanobacteria Sampling Methodology

Monitoring for blue-green algae should be directed at areas of highest concentrations and risk to public health. These areas are typically along the shoreline of lakes and ponds and often can include bathing beaches that are already the responsibility of State, local and other responsible entities. Contact DEEP for advice if samples are to be obtained from deep water.

A description of the proposed shoreline sampling approach is outlined below. The detailed sampling protocol should be obtained from the chosen analytical laboratory.

Sampling at the Shoreline

- Sampler should be using waders and long sleeved rubber gloves
- Clearly mark sampling containers with required information (site #, date, time, etc.)
- Wade to an approximate depth of three feet
- Invert sample bottle(s) to collect a sample at approximately 18 inches below the surface
- Decant water for required air space and/or pour into additional containers (if necessary), cap bottles
- Visual observations – look to see if bottom is visible, if a scum on water's surface is present
- Fill out chain of custody, including visual observations
- Store samples in a cooler with ice until delivery to lab(s)

Sampling the Shoreline from a Dock, Wall, or Boat

- Sampler should be using long sleeved rubber gloves
- Clearly mark sampling containers with required information (site #, date, time, etc.)
- Choose a location that is approximately three feet deep (if possible)
- Lean over to collect sample (if possible), or use a pole sampling device to collect sample
- Invert sample bottle(s) to collect a sample at approximately 18 inches below the surface
- Decant water for required air space and/or pour into additional containers (if necessary), cap bottles
- Visual observations – look to see if bottom is visible, if a scum on water's surface is present
- Use a Secchi disk with calibrated line to determine transparency and total depth
- Fill out chain of custody, including visual observations
- Store samples in a cooler with ice until delivery to lab(s)

Logistical Issues

1. Long holding times may result in higher counts.
2. Shoreline concentrations tend to be highest in the afternoon.
3. Blue-green algae blooms may be highly localized and vary in location in a lake. One shoreline may be experiencing a bloom while another shoreline can be clear of a bloom.
4. Blue-green algae cells and toxins concentrations can differ considerably on a daily basis. Repeat sampling may be necessary.
5. Blue-green algae cells can be high and toxin levels can be low from the same sample.
6. Blue-green algae cells can be low and toxin levels can be high from the same sample.

Section B: Example Field Observation Sheet

Date of Observation: _____

Time: _____

Name of

Waterbody: _____ Town: _____

Description of

Location: _____

Take and Send Digital Photos to DPH/DEEP

Visual Assessment:

Water Clarity (check all that apply):

- Clear
- Cloudy
- Hazy

Water Color (check all that apply):

- Green
- Brown
- Milky white
- Blue-green
- Red
- Clear

Visible Bloom (circle one): Yes No Don't know

Visible Scum (circle one): Yes No Don't know

Observations:

Are there people swimming? Yes No Don't know

Are there people boating and jet skiing? Yes No Don't know

Are there people with dog recreating in the area? Yes No Don't know

Reporters Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Section C: Postings for beaches and other public access points .

Example A: Posing for a Beach Closure



Example B: Cautionary (Category 2) Posting



*An increased risk of an algae bloom
has made this area potentially
unsafe for water contact*

Be alert and avoid skin contact with water that:

- looks like spilled paint
- has surface scums, mats or films
- is discolored or has colored streaks
- has green globs floating below the surface

*Keep children and pets away from algae blooms and rinse
off any exposed skin or fur with clean water.*

For more information contact:

Posting produced in collaboration with CT DEEP and CT DPH

Example C: "Advisory" Posting for non-Beach Public Access Point

