



Summer Announcements

Warmer weather means it's time to be on the lookout for ticks and blue-green algae blooms. Read below to learn about how the crowd-sourced data trackers on the [Vermont Tracking portal](#) help keep Vermonters and visitors healthy and informed.

Blue-Green Algae Monitoring

Each year from June through October, more than 200 trained volunteers monitor Lake Champlain and four inland lakes with managed beach areas--Carmi, Elmore, Iroquois, and Memphremagog--for blue-green algae blooms. Throughout the season, algae bloom status is updated on the [Blue-Green Algae Tracker](#).

Several improvements made to the Tracker this year will streamline the data entry process for volunteers as well as the approval process for the moderators, which will help get information on the Blue-Green Algae Tracker faster.

The blue-green algae monitoring program is conducted in partnership with the [Lake Champlain Committee](#) and the [Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation](#). More information on blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) can be found [here](#).

Vermont Tick Tracker is Online

Spot a tick? Report observations on the [Vermont Tick Tracker](#). Each year starting in the spring,

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Vermont Tracking

Vermont is one of 25 states and one city funded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to develop a state and national tracking network of environmental and health data for the public, policy makers, researchers, and agencies. The [VT Environmental Public Health Tracking Portal](#) provides these data in maps, charts, and tables as a part of the State's continuing effort to help Vermonters better understand the relationship between their environment and their health. Topics include air quality, climate change, public and private drinking water, asthma, birth defects, cancer, carbon monoxide, heart attack, childhood lead poisoning, reproductive health, blue-green algae, and radon.

Vermonters and visitors post tick sightings that help spread awareness on how to [Be Tick Smart](#) and prevent Lyme Disease.



Tick Tracker is compatible with IE9, Chrome, Safari, and Firefox browsers.

Drinking Water Data Updates

Ten drinking water contaminants are tracked at the state level and also by water system for the largest systems. New data by water system for 2012, 2013, and 2014 are available for [Public Community Water System](#) (PCWS) serving 500 or more people.

Coming Soon!

Approximately 40% of Vermont residents draw drinking water from private sources such as wells and springs. Since water quality of private water systems is not regulated in Vermont, it is important for owners to maintain and test their own systems. Water quality data for arsenic and nitrate in private water systems are summarized by town on the [Tracking portal](#) and new data for the years 2012, 2013, and 2014 will be added very soon.

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