

Monitoring methods for cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins discussed in this guidance are shown below. Check/uncheck the box for monitoring requirements to see which method may suit your needs. Each method has a link that will take you directly to that section of our guidance document for a discussion of how the method works and resources to learn more about it. Definitions of the criteria used here are located in [Section 4.1](#) or visible when touched by your cursor. For additional information on management and control strategies, visit [Section 6](#).

Select your monitoring requirements:				
Target Analyte	Lab Required		Turnaround Time	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cyanobacteria	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Less than 24 hours
<input type="checkbox"/> Cyanotoxin	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 to 3 days

Method	Cyanobacteria			Cyanotoxin			Result Type	Sample Type	Relative Cost	Level of Training
	P/A	ID	DEN	P/A	CGN	TOT				
Visual Assessments	4	1	1	1	1	1	Qualitative	Variable	\$	Novice
Jar and Stick Tests	4	1	1	1	1	1	Qualitative	Point sampling	\$	Novice
Pigments	4	1	4	1	1	1	Quantitative	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate
Remote Sensing	4	1	4	1	1	1	Quant./Qual.	Indirect	\$	Intermediate / Expert
Microscopy	4	4	4	1	1	1	Quant./Qual.	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate / Expert
Genetic Methods for Identification	4	4	3	1	1	1	Quantitative	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate
Automatic Classification and Machine Learning	4	4	4	1	1	1	Quantitative	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate
Strip Tests / Dip Sticks	1	1	1	4	1	4	Semi-Quant.	Point sampling	\$\$	Novice
Protein Phosphatase Inhibition Assay (PPIA)	1	1	1	4	1	4	Quantitative	Variable	\$\$	Intermediate
Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)	1	1	1	4	1	4	Quantitative	Variable	\$\$	Intermediate
Mass Spectrometry	1	1	1	4	4	1	Quantitative	Variable	\$\$\$	Expert
Chromatography	1	1	1	4	4	1	Quantitative	Variable	\$\$\$	Expert
Genetic Analysis for Cyanotoxins	4	1	1	4	1	1	Quantitative	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate

	P/A	Presence/absence
Suitable	ID	Cyanobacteria identification
Potential	DEN	Cyanobacteria cell densities

Not suitable	CGN	Congener-specific concentrations
	TOT	Total cyanotoxin concentrations