

## OUR TOWNS

### LAKE RONKONKOMA

#### Health officials lift swimming advisory

An advisory to beachgoers to refrain from wading or swimming in Lake Ronkonkoma at Brookhaven Park due to a localized blue-green algae bloom has been lifted, Suffolk County health officials said yesterday.

The lake has been removed from the state Department of Environmental Conservation's list of bodies of water where toxic levels of blue-green algae may be present, health officials said.

Still, the health department says beachgoers should "use caution if they observe discolored water."

When the presence of blue-green algae was announced Sept. 2, officials said in a news release that "contact with surface water that appears discolored should be avoided."

Natural in low numbers in lakes and streams, blue-green algae, also known as cyanobacteria, "can become abundant" and toxic, the release said.

Contact can result in symptoms "such as nausea, vomiting or diarrhea; skin, eye or throat irritation, allergic reactions or breathing difficulties," in which case medical attention should be sought, officials said.

— PATRICIA KITCHEN