



# PRESS RELEASE

City of Pompano Beach

100 West Atlantic Boulevard | Pompano Beach, FL 33060

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## City Warns Residents of Red Tide Conditions

The results of the water sampled on Monday, October 1st by the by the Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC) came back this afternoon with a very low concentration of the natural occurring red tide in Pompano Beach. As a result, the City of Pompano Beach is flying red flags alerting residents of high hazard water conditions on the public beach. Signs warning swimmers have also been posted along the beach, however the beach itself remains open. A FWC map containing the levels of concentration can be viewed at <http://myfwc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=87162eec3eb846218cec711d16462a72>

The red tide is a bloom of the *Karenia Brevis* algae that is naturally occurring in the Gulf of Mexico. The algae is rarely found on the East Coast of Florida, as it prefers the calmer waters of the Gulf. Another factor for its rarity in Broward County are the winds and currents of the Atlantic Ocean that influence/inhibit the organism's growth and retention.

Red tide may have temporary health impacts. Some people experience allergy-like symptoms, especially for individuals that might have sensitivities, such as those with asthma. People with chronic respiratory problems should avoid red tide areas. The duration of the red tide depends on multiple environmental conditions that influence its growth and persistence, including sunlight, nutrients and salinity, as well as the speed and direction of wind and water currents.

The City of Pompano Beach will continue to fly the red flags until water sampling performed by the FWC determines natural occurring *Karenia Brevis* algae is no longer present in the area.

For more information about red tide visit FWC's website <http://myfwc.com/research/redtide>.