



## PHOENIX LAKE WATER TREATMENT

Heavy rains and warm summers can lead to algae overgrowth in water reservoirs, including Phoenix Lake. Although not harmful, in the right conditions, algae can bloom out of control, causing taste and odor problems in the water distribution system. In an effort to control algae growth and improve water quality taste and odor for our customers, Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD) will be applying treatment to Phoenix Lake for algae beginning in the summer of 2023. Below is a list of frequently asked questions about this treatment process.



### FAQS

1. **Why is Phoenix Lake being treated with an algaecide?** Phoenix Lake is being treated with an algaecide to control the growth of algae and improve water quality.
2. **What is algaecide?** An algaecide is a treatment used to control or eliminate algae growth in bodies of water.
3. **Who will be completing the treatment on the lake and how long will it take?** The Lake Doctor, a contractor hired by the District, will complete the treatment. Treatment typically takes less than one day. The length of treatment depends on the severity of the algae growth and weather conditions, however, will most likely reoccur monthly, for up to 6 months depending on its effectiveness.
4. **Is algaecide safe for humans, animals, and aquatic life?** Yes, the algaecide being used is safe for humans and animals when used according to the manufacturer's instructions.
5. **Will the water be safe to drink after the treatment?** Yes. The algaecide being used is approved for use in water reservoirs and is rated safe for drinking water.
6. **Has TUD performed this type of treatment before?** TUD has performed similar lake treatments over the years in various locations within its service area yielding positive results and improving water quality for our customers. Should we see improvement from the treatment at Phoenix Lake, the district may begin performing treatments annually each spring.
7. **Were other methods to mitigate the algae in the lake considered?** TUD staff, under advisement of its expert contractor, considered other methods such as active mixing and aeration; however, the algaecide treatment was deemed the most efficient, effective, and affordable solution to improve the water quality for our customers.

**8. Who can I contact for more information?** Contact our office at (209) 532-5536, ext. 554 for additional questions. For the Phoenix Lake Application Plan and Permit documents, click the following links:

[TUD-APAP-Phoenix-Lake-2023.pdf \(tudwater.com\)](#)

[NPDES-NOI-Permit-Phoenix-Lake-2023-1.pdf \(tudwater.com\)](#)