

CAN I ...?

- Swim in the water?
- Ski on the water?
- Eat the fish?
- Water my vegetables?

SWIM IN THE WATER?

- Even low concs. can cause sensitive people to have allergic response
- Increasing conc. = increasing symptoms (eye/nose irrit., rash/hives, blisters)
- WHO recreational waters guidance = 20 ppb to protect against symptoms
- Don't swim when scum/bloom present
- Wait 2 weeks after scum/bloom gone

SKI ON THE WATER?

- Water sprays can produce toxin-containing aerosols if water conc. is high
- Inhaling &/or swallowing aerosols can cause headaches, nausea, sore throat, and respiratory problems
- Eye & nose irritation possible
- Don't boat, water ski, tube, etc. when scum/bloom present
- Wait 2 weeks after scum/bloom gone

EAT THE FISH?

- Poor database for uptake into fish
- Used data from 3 studies with measured MC concs. in water & fish to calculate “BCFs” (7 species total)
- Range of BCFs = 0.6-14.1 (ex., L. Erie water = 1.3 ppb, yellow perch = 2.4 ppb, BCF = $2.4/1.3 = 1.85$)
- Then used Ohio “Do not eat” level = 28 ppb in filets as target to back-calculate water conc. corresponding to 28 ppb

EAT THE FISH? (contd.)

- Water conc. X BCF = 28 ppb
- For BCF = 0.6, water conc. = 49 ppb
- For BCF = 14.1, water conc. = 2 ppb
- Since WHO guidance (20 ppb) is in middle of water conc. range it was chosen as water conc. for “Do not eat” advice

WATER MY VEGETABLES?

- Few studies on uptake into vegetables
- Should be OK to water soil, studies suggest minimal uptake into plants
- If edible portions are recently watered they should be thoroughly washed
- Don't water recently planted vegetables/plants, MC shown to affect root & shoot growth