



Lake Water and Fishing Update – June 2026

Current Fishing Conditions

Fish stocking is currently suspended due to golden algae conditions impacting fish survivability.

Early this Spring, before conditions deteriorated, over 1000 pounds of catfish and 750 individual bluegills were stocked, yielding several months of successful fishing. The Lake Biologist continues to test golden algae levels and when conditions improve will resume fish stocking. Because Golden algae do not always behave the same way year after year, it is difficult to predict when conditions will change.

Members will be advised of any future stocking dates via Lake's newsletter, Lake Life emails, social media, and on LakeMissionViejo.org.

Fishing and algae conditions have no impact on the use of the lake for swimming or boating activities. Lake water is tested daily to ensure the water meets and exceeds all standards for swimming safety.

Improvements Underway

After years of study and planning, construction has begun on the Lake Water Improvement Project. This project consists of installing a system of pipes and pumps that will circulate water from the Lake to the existing Advanced Purified Water (APW) facility for treatment. The treatment process removes salt and solids from the water and lowers its pH, then returns the water to the Lake.

Although not guaranteed to eliminate golden algae from the Lake, research indicates that this is the most viable long-term solution to the problem.

Projected completion of the Water Improvement Project is expected in January of 2027. Because the Lake holds approximately 1.2 billion gallons of water, it will take several years of operation to see significant changes to the Lake water's properties.

More Information/History

Please refer to the previous updates for more information on the Lake Water Improvement project, as well as the history of golden algae in Lake Mission Viejo.