

Infographic Transcript: National Phytoplankton Monitoring Network – Celebrating 20 Years

The National Phytoplankton Monitoring Network (PMN) is a community-based network of volunteers monitoring marine phytoplankton and harmful algal blooms (HABs) since 2001. PMN enhances the Nation's ability to respond to and manage the growing threat posed by HABs by collecting data for species composition and distribution in coastal and fresh waters.

Program Highlights:

- In the past 5 years, PMN has hosted 61 trainings and trained over 150 volunteers.
- PMN has 664 citizen science volunteers who collect coastal and freshwater samples.
- Volunteer citizens use the Phyto app to identify blooms. Since 2011, the app has been downloaded 22,951 times in 150 countries.
- Citizen scientist volunteers send their data to NCCOS researchers who verify blooms and notify state officials. In the last two years, PMN has helped notified state officials of 15 blooms.
- Since 2011, PMN volunteers have discovered 500 blooms and generated 480,000 database entries, and have been active at 67 sampling sites across 36 states.