

Algae - sign of eutrophication

Blue-green algae have become the icon of the eutrophication of the Baltic Sea.

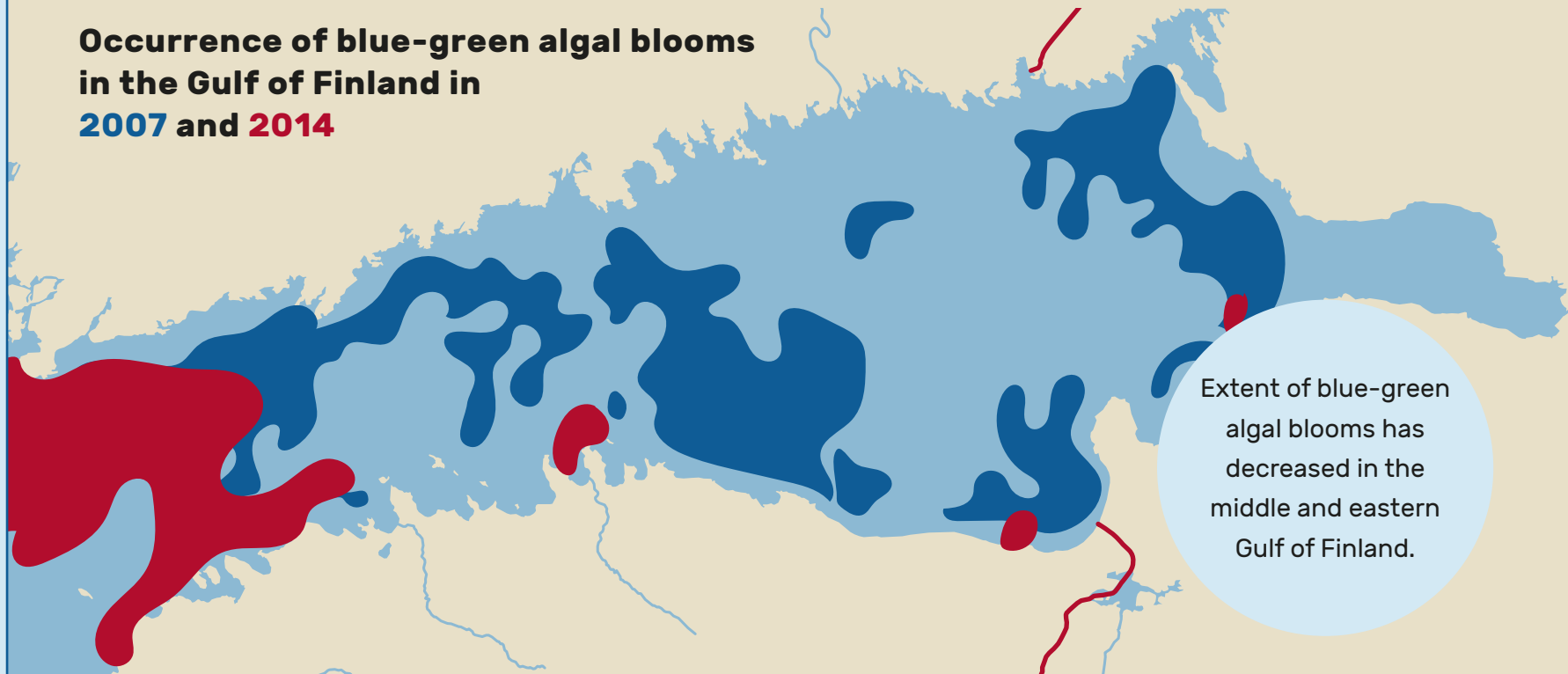
They may form dense surface accumulations, being a nuisance for boating and people at summer cottages. They can also be toxic.

Do like this:

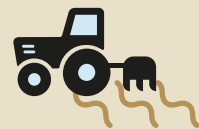
Always consider greenish / brownish matter floating on the water to be possibly toxic algae.

Do not swim in the water in which there is much algae, and do not let your pet swim there either. Do not use that water in your garden or sauna.

Occurrence of blue-green algal blooms in the Gulf of Finland in 2007 and 2014



Sources of phosphorus into the Gulf of Finland (tonnes / year)



Scattered load
(e.g. agriculture)
2 000



Natural load
(irrespective of
human actions)
1 400



Internal load
(phosphorus released
from sediments)
0 - 10 000



Point source load
(e.g. households)
600



Transboundary load
(atmospheric deposition)
200



S Y K E