



CITIZEN SCIENCE LAKE TAHOE APP

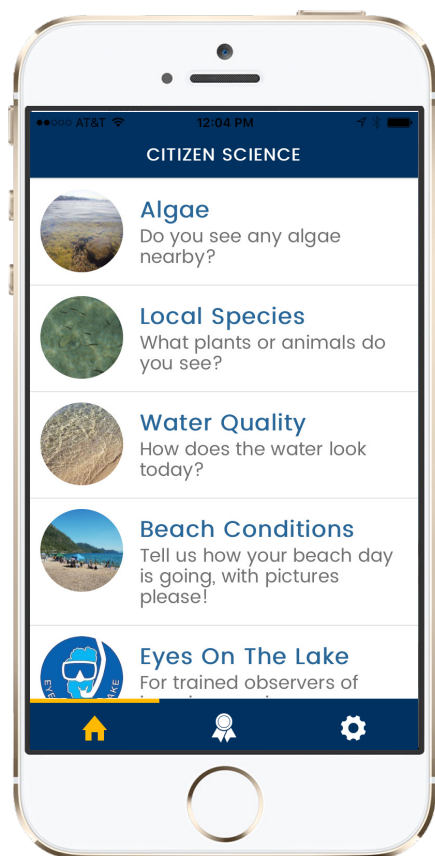
JUST GO TO THE BEACH!

Share your Lake Tahoe nearshore observations with Citizen Science Lake Tahoe mobile app. The "Citizen Science Lake Tahoe" mobile app is available for download at CitizenScienceTahoe.org from the UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center.

JUST GO TO THE BEACH WITH "CITIZEN SCIENCE LAKE TAHOE" MOBILE APP

The UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC) launched an updated version of their smartphone app, "Citizen Science Lake Tahoe," that encourages beachgoers of all ages to submit what they see at Lake Tahoe—observational data that will be shared with scientists to better understand conditions around the lake.

Citizen scientists can help lake researchers by taking a few



Citizen Science Lake Tahoe app on iPhone

minutes to enter what they see at the beach, from algae to wildlife. Each observation automatically records the user's location and the date and time. Users can also add photos, comments, and earn points for every observation made.

Science needs both sides of the story, so users are encouraged to report on what is good at the beach as well as anything that indicates problems, such as algae, shells, or litter. Trained volunteers with the League to Save Lake Tahoe's "Eyes on the Lake" or "Pipe Keepers" programs can also use the app to record their observations.

This "perceptual data" will help lake researchers better understand Lake Tahoe's fragile nearshore, the region of the lake we experience the most, but, surprisingly, know the least about. Scientists will compare this data with data from a growing network of real-time sensors to gain a larger view of what's going on in the nearshore. As the number of "crowd-sourced" observations increases, new information and trends will be discovered.

"There are aspects of water and ecological quality that depend solely on the perceptions of individuals. This is what this

app is seeking to measure, from everywhere around the lake at all times of year", said TERC director Dr. Geoff Schladow. "If you want to contribute to science at Lake Tahoe, simply go to the beach."

Data from the app and the sensors will be available through a science center exhibit currently under development. The future "Lake Tahoe Conditions" exhibit, developed by UC Davis TERC and funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services and North Lake Tahoe Resort Association/Placer County, will explore trends related to lake level, temperature, water color, water clarity, algae, and more.

By viewing the real-time data from around the shore of Lake Tahoe, visitors will be able to explore how conditions are changing over time and at different locations around the lake.

So, please... Go to the beach! But first, download the Citizen Science Lake Tahoe mobile app at CitizenScienceTahoe.org and use it to make observations that will enrich your experience, and add to our ever-increasing understanding of Lake Tahoe.

**DOWNLOAD THE APP AT
[HTTP://CITIZENSCIENTATAHOE.ORG](http://CITIZENSCIENTATAHOE.ORG)**