

# What's Blooming in Budd in 2024?

**Location:** Port Plaza Dock (near Farmer's Market)

**Date:** Thursdays (June 20 – August 29)

**Time:** 10 AM – 12 PM

This summer, PSI will sample weekly at Port Plaza, Budd Inlet, thanks to generous funding from Stream Team and the Inspire Olympia Fund! Come join us! Everyone is welcome!

PSI will have water quality equipment, plankton nets, and microscopes available for plankton viewing and identifying harmful algal bloom (HAB) species for NOAA's [SoundToxins](#) program. As always, you may check here weekly to view data, photos, videos, and a commentary on our sampling experience.

Every week, plankton communities change. Every week, we see something new!

We would love to see you on the dock or hear from you! Contact us anytime with your burning plankton questions, or to arrange for group presentations.

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# June 20, 2024 – Budd Inlet, Port Plaza

Secchi disk (water clarity): 3.2 meters

**Blooming Phytoplankton Species:** *No blooming species.*

**Common Phytoplankton Species:** *Pleurosigma/Gyrosigma*, *Noctiluca*

**Zooplankton:** bivalve larvae, copepods, larvaceans, polychaete larvae, rotifers, crustacean nauplii, tintinnids, barnacle larvae, ciliates

**Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Species:** *Pseudo-nitzschia* (6 cells/L), *Dinophysis sp* (6 cells/L), *Akashiwo sanguinea* (6 cells/L)



	Surface	1.5m	3.0m
<b>Temp (°C)</b>	17.1	15.7	13.9
<b>Salinity (ppt)</b>	14.92	27.49	28.4
<b>Oxygen (mg/l)</b>	7.06	6.92	5.92
<b>pH</b>	7.63	7.71	7.67



What an amazing kick-off to the What's Blooming in Budd summer season. Thank you, Jeanne Koenings and Mia Widrow (Olympia HS intern), for volunteering to educate folks about plankton and Budd Inlet water quality! We had 66 visitors swing by the table to peek through the microscopes, including campers from Olympia Community Sailing and out-of-town guests from Colorado, Florida, and Humboldt County!

The zooplankton were the stars of the plankton today – plenty of action from the copepods, larvaceans, and rotifers. Our timing hit peak low tide (-2ft), dropping surface salinities and reflecting the lower dissolved oxygen and pH levels measured directly off-bottom a 10-foot depth. The tide was so low that you could see TONS of sea stars and plumose anemones! So amazing! Kids kept themselves very busy attempting to catch sticklebacks and ctenophores.



From left to right: *Noctiluca* (dinoflagellate), *Fragilaria*, *Asterionella*, *Pleurosigma/Gyrosigma*(diatoms)

**June 27, 2024 – Budd Inlet, Port Plaza**