

**From:** [Hal Holliday](#)  
**To:** [WaterbodyComments](#)  
**Subject:** Lower Illinois River water quality  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 21, 2018 11:37:25 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

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To whom it may concern,

Two weeks ago I floated and fished with my son and grandson from the Tahlequah bridge to Lake Tenkiller. My family has owned a cabin on the Illinois River near Park Hill for 50 years. I am 65 years old and have floated the Illinois since I was a very young man. The amount of algae currently in the river is heartbreaking to see. Every year the amount of algae seems to be getting more prevalent. In areas where the river has receded the stain on rocks and gravel bars is very noticeable. When we pulled over for lunch we had a difficult time finding a spot along the bank that was not thick with slimy green algae. Our kayaks were also splattered with green slime. My son is in his thirties and has had the privilege of enjoying our once pristine river. I'm afraid, unless immediate action is taken, my grandson will not be as fortunate. I have floated and fished the White, Caddo and Buffalo rivers in your fine state. What would your response be if yours rivers were being contaminated like the Illinois and Lake Tenkiller? This will probably fall on deaf ears considering the poultry and farming industries have such a large lobby not just in Arkansas but in Oklahoma as well. For the sake of ordinary citizens that covet spending time on our rivers and lakes I hope action will be taken to keep our watersheds free from the poisons being emptied into them every day.

Hal M. Holliday

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