

I took several photos of the brown substance spotted on the water west of Norwalk, Connecticut and in the vicinity of Rye Play Land, New York," explained Commander Schepis. Continuing, Commander Schepis said, "Photographs of the sightings and water surface were forwarded to Sector Long Island for their consideration."



*Photograph of brown substance near Rye Play Land, New York*

*Photo by Coast Guard Auxiliariist, Commander Steven Schepis*

The following day Auxiliariist, Commander Steven Schepis contacted Sector Long Island sound to inquire about the nature of the substance and/or determination as to the source of the substance he photographed. Commander Schepis noted that the Watch Stander advised him that Sector Long Island Sound had dispatched a surface vessel whose crew took samples of the substance on the water, which was revealed to be pollen. "It was also revealed, that an independent investigation found that in the days prior

to 9 May, 2018, there was a prevailing westerly wind over Connecticut and Westchester County that carried large amounts of pollen over the Long Island Sound . Due to temperature differentiations between the ground and water, the pollen was drawn out of the air and made its way to the water surface where it formed brown lines along the shoreline. It was also noted that these brown lines were located no more than a half mile from the shore.



*Commander Steven Schepis, Flotilla 10-01*



*Photograph of brown substance on the water west of Norwalk, Connecticut*

*Photo by Coast Guard Auxiliariist, Commander Steven Schepis*