



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BEACH ADVISORY

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPMR) announces that the Beach Water Quality Monitoring Program, which evaluates weekly water quality at popular swimming beaches throughout the Territory by sampling for Enterococci Bacteria and Turbidity, which is a measure of water clarity, advises the public of the following:

DPMR performed water quality analysis at 31 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of August 27-31, 2018. **All sampled beaches meet water quality standards and are safe for swimming or fishing:**

St. Croix

Cramer Park
Shoy's
New Fort (Ft. Louise
Augusta)
Buccaneer
Chenay Bay

Halfpenny
Dorsch
Frederiksted Public Beach
Cane Bay
Pelican Cove (Cormorant)
Protestant Cay

Rainbow
Columbus Landing
Spratt Hall

St. Thomas

Magen's Bay
Brewer's Bay
Lindbergh Bay
Hull Bay
Vessup Bay
Coki Point

Sapphire Water Bay
Bluebeards
Secret Harbor
Water Bay
Lindquist
Bolongo Bay

St. John

Frank Bay
Oppenheimer
Great Cruz Bay
Johnson Bay
Cruz Bay

Please Note: Samples were not collected at the following beaches:

- *Stoney Ground, Princess Condo Row and Grapetree Bay on St. Croix*
- *Frenchman's Bay on St. Thomas*

Therefore, the water quality of these beaches is unknown.

STORM WATER ADVISORY NOTE: Due to the high volume of rainfall in the USVI Territory this week, DPNR advises the public to refrain from using the coastal waters throughout the Territory until further notification. DPNR is also advising parents to instruct their children to keep away from storm water-impacted beaches as well as areas with manholes and storm water flooding. There may be an elevated health risk to anyone swimming in storm water-impacted areas as a result of increased concentrations of bacteria.

All persons should also be aware that storm water runoff may also contain contaminants or pollutants harmful to human health and therefore all persons should avoid areas of storm water runoff (i.e. guts, puddles, and drainage basins). DPNR will continue to monitor the impacted areas and waters.

For additional information regarding water quality call the Division of Environmental Protection at 773-1082 in St. Croix or 774-3320 in St. Thomas.