



**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 (DPNR) 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:

DPNR performed water quality analysis at 38 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of December 14-18, 2015. The following beaches **meet water quality standards and are safe for swimming or fishing**:

**St. Croix**

Stoney Ground  
Protestant Cay  
Chenay Bay  
Buccaneer  
Cramer Park  
Rainbow  
Shoy's

New Fort (Ft. Louise  
Augusta)  
Halfpenny  
Princess (Condo Row) B -  
Breezes  
Columbus Landing  
Dorsch  
Frederiksted Public Beach

Sprat Hall  
Cane Bay  
Pelican Cove (Comorant)  
Gentle Winds

**St. Thomas**

Hull Bay  
Sapphire  
Vessup Bay  
Magen's Bay  
Secret Harbor  
Bluebeards  
Brewer's Bay  
Lindbergh Bay

Frenchman's Bay  
Bolongo Bay  
Coki Point  
Water Bay  
Linguist  
Limetree Bay  
Morningstar

**St. John**

Cruz Bay

Oppenhiemer

Great Cruz Bay

Frank Bay

Johnson Bay

The following beach **does not meet water quality standards because it exceeds the established Enterococci Bacteria threshold and therefore is not considered to be safe for swimming or fishing:**

**St. Croix**

Princess (Condo Row) A – Mill Harbour

High levels of Enterococci Bacteria and Turbidity may be caused by runoff due to heavy rains, heavy marine vessel traffic, high wave activity near the shoreline, irresponsible recreational use, etc. Runoff can consist of sediment, pesticides, animal feces and oil & grease, all of which are harmful to the waters of the Territory.

DPNR will continue to monitor these popular swimming areas. DPNR also recommends that you use your own discretion when swimming or fishing at the designated beaches. If the waters appear muddy or murky or have foul odors, do not swim or fish. For additional information regarding water quality call the Division of Environmental Protection at 773-1082 in St. Croix.