



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 34 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of October 15-19, 2018. The following beaches **meet water quality standards and are safe for swimming or fishing**:

St. Croix

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

Chenay Bay
Dorsch
Frederiksted Public Beach
Princess Condo Row
Cane Bay

Pelican Cove (Cormorant)
Protestant Cay
Rainbow
Gentle Winds

St. Thomas

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

Water Bay
Bolongo Bay
Secret Harbor
Hull Bay
Frenchman's Bay
Morningstar

St. John

Johnson Bay
Frank Bay
Cruz Bay
Great Cruz Bay

The following beaches **do not meet water quality standards because they exceed the established Enterococci Bacteria threshold and therefore are not considered to be safe for swimming or fishing:**

St. Croix

Halfpenny

St. Thomas

Lindquist
Sapphire
Bluebeard's

St. John

Oppenheimer

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

- *Stoney Ground and Grapetree Bay on St. Croix*

Therefore, the water quality of these beaches is unknown.

SEWAGE WATER ADVISORY NOTE: DPNR advises the public to refrain from using the coastal waters in the **Christiansted Harbor** area until further notification, as due to mechanical issues with the LBJ VIWMA pump station, untreated sewage is overflowing from the sewer system into surface waters in the **Christiansted Harbor**.

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.