



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

-----0-----

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

No. 45 Estate Mars Hill, Frederiksted
St. Croix, Virgin Islands 00840

Office of the Commissioner

Telephone: (340) 773-1082
FAX: (340) 773-1716

CONTACT: Jamal Nielsen, Media Relations Coordinator

FAX: (340) 713-2430

jamal.nielsen@dpr.vi.gov

February 22, 2019

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 29 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of February 19-22, 2019. **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)
Chenay Bay

Dorsch
Frederiksted Public Beach
Halfpenny
Cane Bay

Pelican Cove (Cormorant)
Protestant Cay
Rainbow
Buccaneer

St. Thomas

Magen's Bay
Brewer's Bay
Sapphire
Lindquist
Frenchman's Bay

Water Bay
Vessup Bay
Hull Bay
Bolongo Bay
Bluebeard's

St. John

Frank Bay
Oppenheimer
Great Cruz Bay
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. Thomas

Lindbergh Bay
Coki Point
Secret Harbor

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

- *Stoney Ground, Princess (Condo Row), and Grapetree Bay on St. Croix*
- *Johnson Bay on St. John*

Therefore, the water quality of these beaches is unknown.

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) or if any area appears discolored or has foul odors. 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.