



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES



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 January 20-24, 2020. **The following beaches meet water quality standards and are safe for swimming or fishing:**

St. Croix		
Shony Ground	Pelican Cove	Cramer's Park
Dorsch Beach		Halfpenny
Frederiksted Public Beach	Protestant Cay	New Fort
Rainbow	Buccaneer	
Cane Bay	Chenay Bay	

St. Thomas		
Lindberg Bay	Coki Point	Bolongo
Brewer's Bay	Sapphire	Frenchman's Bay
Bluebeard's	Vessup Bay	Water Bay
Hull Bay		Lindquist
Magen's Bay	Secret Harbor	

St. John
Cruz Bay
Oppenheimer
Johnson 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

St. Thomas

St. John
Frank Bay

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

- *Sprat Hall, Gentle Winds, Columbus landing, New Fort, Shoy's, Teague Bay and Grapetree on St. Croix;*
- *Limetree Bay and Morningstar on St. Thomas;*

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.