



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES



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@dpnr.vi.gov

February 28, 2020

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 33 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of February 24-28, 2020. **The following beaches meet water quality standards and are safe for swimming or fishing:**

| St. Croix | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Stony Ground | Pelican Cove (Comorant) | Chenay Bay |
| Dorsch Beach | Princess (Condo Row) | New Fort (Ft. Louise Augusta) |
| Frederiksted Public Beach | Protestant Cay | Grapetree Bay |
| Rainbow | Buccaneer | Cramers Park |
| Cane Bay | Shoy's | Halfpenny |

| St. Thomas | | |
|-------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Lindberg Bay | Water Bay | Secret Harbor |
| Brewer's Bay | Lindquist | Bolongo Bay |
| Hull Bay | Sapphire | Frenchman's Bay |
| Coki Point | Vessup Bay | |
| | Bluebeards | |

| |
|-----------------|
| St. John |
| Cruz Bay |
| Oppenheimer |
| Johnsons Bay |
| Great Cruz Bay |
| Frank 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 |
| Magens Bay |

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.