



**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 31 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of March 9-13, 2020. **The following beaches meet water quality standards and are safe for swimming or fishing:**

<b>St. Croix</b>		
Stony Ground	Chenay Bay	Dorsch Beach
Princess (Condo Row)	Cramer's Park	Rainbow Beach
Frederiksted Public Beach	Grapetree Bay	
Pelican Cove (Comorant)	Halfpenny	
Protestant Cay	Shoy's	

<b>St. Thomas</b>		
Bolongo Bay	Frenchman's Bay	
Brewer's Bay	Lindquist	
Hull Bay	Sapphire	
Magen's Bay	Vessup Bay	
Bluebeard's		

<b>St. John</b>
Cruz Bay
Oppenheimer
Johnson 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:**

<b>St. Croix</b>
Cane Bay

<b>St. Thomas</b>
Lindberg Bay
Coki Point
Water Bay
Secret Harbor

<b>St. John</b>
Great Cruz Bay

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

- *New Fort (Ft. Louise Augusta) and Buccaneer on St. Croix;*

*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.