



**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 August 10 – 14, 2020. **PLEASE NOTE:** Beaches on St. Thomas and St. John were not sampled this week due to COVID-19 issues.

**The following beaches on St. Croix meet water quality standards and are safe for swimming or fishing:**

<b>St. Croix</b>		
Stony Ground	Pelican Cove (Comorant)	Sprat Hall
Dorsch Beach	Cramer’s Park	New Fort
Frederiksted Public Beach	Protestant Cay	Shoy’s
Rainbow Beach	Buccaneer	Halfpenny Beach
Cane Bay	Chenay Bay	
Princess (Condo Row)		

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

- *Columbus Landing and Grapetree Bay on St. Croix due to the high concentration of Sargassum Seaweed impacting the nearshore. Therefore, the water quality at this beach 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.