



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 32 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of September 7 – 11, 2020. **ALL BEACHES MEET WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AND ARE SAFE FOR SWIMMING OR FISHING:**

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

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

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|-----------------|
| St. John |
| Cruz Bay |
| Oppenheimer |
| Johnson Bay |
| Frank Bay |
| Great Cruz Bay |

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

- *Columbus Landing and Grapetree Bay on St. Croix due to the high concentration of Sargassum Seaweed impacting the nearshore*
- *Protestant Cay off St. Croix due to the ferry not running.*

Therefore, the water quality at these beaches are unknown.

All persons should 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 any area that 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 514-1961 in St. Thomas.