



**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@dpr.vi.gov](mailto:jamal.nielsen@dpr.vi.gov)

October 2, 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 35 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of September 28 – October 2, 2020. The following beaches meet water quality standards and are considered safe for swimming and fishing:

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

<b>St. Thomas</b>		
Lindbergh Bay	Sapphire Beach	Lindquist Beach
Brewer’s Bay	Vessup Bay	Water Bay
Hull Bay	Secret Harbor	Frenchman’s Bay
Magen’s Bay	Coki Point	Bolongo Bay

<b>St. John</b>
Cruz Bay
Oppenheimer
Johnson Bay
Frank Bay
Great Cruz Bay

The following beach does not meet water quality standards because it exceeds the established Enterococci Bacteria threshold and therefore is not considered to be safe for swimming or fishing:

- ***Bluebeard's Beach on St. Thomas.***

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

- *Columbus Landing 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 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 514-1960 in St. Thomas.