



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

November 13, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STORMWATER BEACH ADVISORY

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) announces that due to the high volume of rainfall experienced this week as well as potential rainfall over the coming weekend, the Division of Environmental Protection (DEP) anticipates that negative environmental impacts will be caused by storm-water runoff, high surf zones and possible sewer system overflows.

DPNR advises the public to use caution when using the coastal waters and all beaches throughout the Territory until further notification. DPNR is also advising parents to instruct their children to keep away from storm water-impacted beaches as well as areas with manholes and storm water flooding. There may be an elevated health risk to anyone swimming in storm water-impacted areas as a result of increased concentrations of bacteria.

All persons should also be aware that stormwater runoff may also contain contaminants or pollutants harmful to human health, and therefore should avoid areas of stormwater runoff (i.e. guts, puddles, and drainage basins) or any area that appears discolored or has foul odors. DPNR will continue to monitor 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.