



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 36 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of December 14 – December 18, 2020. The following beaches meet water quality standards and are considered safe for swimming and fishing:

St. Croix		
Stony Ground	Protestant Cay	Princess- Mill Harbor
Dorsch Beach	Halfpenny Beach	Shoy’s Beach
Frederiksted Public Beach	Protestant Cay	Cramer’s Park
Rainbow Beach	Buccaneer	Grapetree Beach
New Fort (Ft. Louise Augusta)	Gentle Winds	Cane Bay
Pelican Cove (Cormorant)	Chenay Bay	

St. Thomas		
Lindbergh Bay	Sapphire Beach	Lindquist Beach
Bolongo Bay	Vessup Bay	Water Bay
Frenchman’s Bay	Secret Harbor	Limetree Bay
Magen’s Bay	Bluebeard’s Beach	
Brewer’s Bay	Hull Bay	

Water Island		
Honeymoon Beach		

St. John
Cruz Bay
Oppenheimer
Johnson Bay
Great Cruz Bay

The following beaches do not meet water quality standards because they exceed the established Enterococci Bacteria threshold and therefore are not considered safe for swimming or fishing:

- *Frank Bay on St. John*
- *Coki Point on St. Thomas.*

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

- *Sprat Hall on St. Croix (due to Sargassum Seaweed)*
- *Morningstar on St. Thomas (due to time constraints).*

Therefore, the water quality at 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 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 774-3320 in St. Thomas.