



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@dprn.vi.gov

December 4, 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 November 30 – December 4, 2020. The following beaches meet water quality standards and are considered safe for swimming and fishing:

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

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

Water Island		
Honeymoon Beach		

St. John
Cruz Bay
Johnson Bay
Great Cruz Bay
Frank 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:

- *Oppenheimer Beach on St. John.*

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

- *Sprat Hall on St. Croix (due to Sargassum Seaweed)*
- *Morningstar and Limetree 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.