



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**Office of the Commissioner**

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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 18 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of September 5 – September 9, 2022. The following beaches meet water quality standards and are considered safe for swimming and fishing:

<b>St. Thomas</b>	
Vessup Bay	Lindqvist Beach
Hull Bay	Bluebeard’s Beach
Bolongo Bay	Coki Point
Magen’s Bay	

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

<b>Water Island</b>	
Honeymoon Beach	

**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:**

- *Sapphire Beach on St. Thomas*
- *Secret Harbor on St. Thomas*
- *Frenchman's Bay on St. Thomas*
- *Lindbergh Bay on St. Thomas*
- *Brewer's Bay on St. Thomas*
- *Frank Bay on St. John.*

**Please note: Due to high surf conditions, samples could not be safely collected on St. Croix beaches, as on the following beach:**

- *Water Bay on St. Thomas.*

*Therefore, the water quality at these beaches is unknown.*

All persons should be aware that storm water runoff may also contain contaminants or pollutants harmful to human health and therefore, 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 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.