



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**BEACH ADVISORY**

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPRN) 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:

DPRN performed water quality analysis at 18 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of May 6 – May 10, 2024. The following beaches meet water quality standards and are considered safe for swimming and fishing:

<b>St. Thomas</b>		
Brewers Bay	Coki Point	Bluebeard’s Beach
Frenchman’s Bay	Lindbergh Bay	Lindqvist Beach
Vessup Bay	Bolongo Bay	
Magens Bay	Sapphire Beach	

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

- *Secret Harbor on St. Thomas*
- *Hull Bay on St. Thomas*

PLEASE NOTE:

**Samples were not collected on St. Croix** and due to the presence of excessive sargassum, samples were not collected at 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.