



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION**

4611 Tutu Park Mall
2nd FL, Suite 300
St. Thomas, VI 00802
(340) 774-3320

45 Mars Hill, Frederiksted
St. Croix, VI 00840
(340) 773-1082
dpnr.vi.gov



CONTACT: Jamal Nielsen, Media Relations Coordinator
jamal.nielsen@dpnr.vi.gov

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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 July 22 – July 26, 2024. The following beaches meet water quality standards and are considered safe for swimming and fishing:

St. Thomas		
Brewers Bay	Lindbergh Bay	Bluebeard’s Beach
Frenchman’s Bay	Hull Bay	Lindqvist Beach
Vessup Bay	Bolongo Bay	Secret Harbor
Magens Bay	Sapphire Beach	Coki Point

St. John
Oppenheimer Beach
Johnson Bay
Great Cruz Bay

Water Island
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:

- *Frank Bay on St. John*
- *Cruz Bay on St. John*

PLEASE NOTE: Samples were not collected on **ST. CROIX**. 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.