



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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

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



Office of the Commissioner

CONTACT: Jamal Nielsen, Media Relations Coordinator  
[jamal.nielsen@dpr.vi.gov](mailto:jamal.nielsen@dpr.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 35 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of July 29 – August 2, 2024. However, the Territory experienced significant rain in the days following sample collection. Please be advised that there may be an elevated health risk to anyone swimming in storm water-impacted areas because of increased concentrations of bacteria or other contaminants.

The following beaches meet water quality standards and are considered safe for swimming and fishing:

<b>St. Croix</b>		
Dorsch Beach	Halfpenny Beach	Protestant Cay
Frederiksted Public Beach	Princess (Condo Row)	Sprat Hall
Chenay Bay	Stony Ground	Rainbow Beach
Shoy's	Cramer's Park	Cane Bay
Pelican Cove (Comorant)	Buccaneer Beach	Columbus Landing
New Fort (Ft. Louise Augusta)	Grapetree Bay	

<b>St. Thomas</b>		
Sapphire Beach	Secret Harbor	Bluebeard's Beach
Frenchman's Bay	Hull Bay	Lindqvist Beach
Vessup Bay	Bolongo Bay	Brewers Bay
Magens Bay	Coki Point	

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

<b>Water Island</b>
Honeymoon Beach

The following beach does not meet water quality standards because it exceeds the established Enterococci Bacteria threshold and therefore is not considered safe for swimming or fishing:

- *Lindbergh Bay on St. Thomas*

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

- *Water Bay on St. Thomas*
- *Gentle Winds on St. Croix*

*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.