



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 33 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of November 11 – November 15, 2024.

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. Areas of storm water runoff (i.e., guts, puddles, and drainage basins) or any area that appears discolored or has foul odors should be avoided. DPNR will continue to monitor impacted areas and waters.

Based on the analytical results, the following beaches met water quality standards and are considered safe for swimming and fishing:

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

St. Thomas		
Brewers Bay	Frenchman's Bay	
Coki Point	Sapphire Beach	
Lindbergh Bay	Magens Bay	

St. John
Cruz Bay
Oppenheimer 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:

- *Bluebeard's Beach on St. Thomas*
- *Bolongo Bay on St. Thomas*
- *Hull Bay on St. Thomas*
- *Lindqvist Beach on St. Thomas*
- *Vessup Bay on St. Thomas*
- *Secret Harbor on St. Thomas*
- *Great Cruz Bay on St. John*
- *Frank Bay on St. John*
- *Johnson Bay on St. John*
- *Chenay Bay on St. Croix*
- *Ha'penny Beach on St. Croix*

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

- *Water Bay on St. Thomas*
- *Honeymoon Beach on Water Island.*

Therefore, the water quality at these beaches is unknown.

For additional information regarding water quality call the Division of Environmental Protection at 773-1082 in St. Croix or 774-3320 in St. Thomas.