



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

-----0-----

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
dprn.vi.gov



Office of the Commissioner

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

Friday, January 16, 2026

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, a measure of water clarity, advises the public of the following:

DPNR performed water quality analysis at 37 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of January 12, 2025– January 16, 2026.

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

St. Croix		
Buccaneer Beach	Gentle Winds	Prosperity Beach
Cane Bay	Grapetree Bay Beach	Protestant Cay
Chenay Bay	Ha'Penny Beach	Rainbow Beach
Cramers Park	New Ft. Louisa Augusta	Shoys Beach
Dorsch Beach	Pelican Cove (Comorant)	Sprat Hall
Frederiksted Public Beach	Princess Condo Row	Stony Ground

St. Thomas	
Bluebeards Beach	Lindbergh Bay
Bolongo Bay	Lindqvist Beach
Brewers Bay	Magens Bay
Coki Point	Sapphire Beach
Frenchman Bay	Secret Harbor
Hull Bay	
Limetree Beach	

St. John	
Frank Bay	
Great Cruz Bay	
Johnson Bay	
Oppenheimer Beach	

Water Island	
Honeymoon Beach (Druif)	

The following beaches do not meet water quality standards because they exceed the established Enterococci bacteria threshold and are therefore unsafe for swimming or fishing:

- *Cruz Bay on St. John*
- *Vessup Bay on St. Thomas*

Please note: Samples were not collected at the following beaches.

- *Water Bay on St. Thomas*
- *Morningstar Beach on St. Thomas*
-

Therefore, the water quality at these beaches is unknown.

Please be advised that anyone swimming in waters contaminated with sewage, stormwater, or with large amounts of sargassum may be at an elevated health risk due to elevated concentrations of bacteria or other contaminants. Waters impacted by sewage, stormwater runoff (i.e., guts, puddles, and drainage basins), large amounts of sargassum, or any area that appears discolored or has foul odors should be avoided. DPNR will continue to monitor the impacted 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.