



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 (DPR) 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:

DPR performed water quality analysis at 35 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of July 13, 2026 – July 17, 2026.

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

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

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

|                     |
|---------------------|
| <b>Water Island</b> |
| Honeymoon Beach     |

**Beach water samples were collected on St. Croix this week; however, enterococci results are unavailable due to a laboratory equipment malfunction during processing.**

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

- *Vessup Bay on St. Thomas.*

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

- *Water Bay on St. Thomas*
- *Bluebeards 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.