



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

DPNR performed water quality analysis at 36 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of July 27, 2026 – July 31, 2026.

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

St. Croix		
Cane Bay	Grapetree Beach	Rainbow Beach
Prosperity Beach	Ha’Penny Beach	Shoy’s Beach
Cramers Park	New Ft. Louisa	Stony Ground
Dorsch Beach	Pelican Cove (Comorant)	Buccaneer Beach
Fredriksted Public Beach	Princess Condo Row	Chenay Bay
Gentle Winds	Protestant Cay	

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

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

Water Island
Honeymoon Beach

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

- *Bluebeards Beach on St. Thomas*
- *Vessup Bay on St. Thomas*
- *Bolongo Bay on St. Thomas*
- *Sprat Hall on St. Croix.*

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

- *Water Bay on St. Thomas.*

Therefore, the water quality at this beach 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.