



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) advises the public that its Beach Water Quality Monitoring Program continues to conduct weekly assessments of water quality at popular swimming beaches throughout the U.S. Virgin Islands. The program evaluates water quality by testing for Enterococci bacteria and measuring turbidity, an indicator of water clarity.

During the week of August 10-14, 2026, DPNR collected and analyzed water samples from 31 designated beaches across the Territory.

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

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

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

Water Island
Honeymoon Beach

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:

- *Cane Bay on St. Croix.*

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

- *Water Bay on St. Thomas*
- *All beaches on St. John.*

Therefore, the water quality at these beaches is unknown.

Please be advised that swimming in waters impacted by sewage, stormwater runoff, or excessive accumulations of sargassum may pose an increased risk to public health due to elevated levels of bacteria and other contaminants. The public is urged to avoid areas affected by sewage discharges, stormwater runoff from guts, puddles, and drainage basins, as well as waters with large quantities of sargassum, visible discoloration, or foul odors.

DPNR remains committed to monitoring the Territory's recreational waters to help protect public health and will continue to provide updated advisories as necessary. Residents and visitors are encouraged to stay informed by following DPNR announcements regarding beach water quality conditions.

For additional information regarding water quality, please contact the Division of Environmental Protection at (340) 773-1082 on St. Croix or (340) 774-3320 on St. Thomas.