



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, which conducts weekly assessments of popular swimming beaches throughout the Territory, has completed water quality testing for the week of September 7-11, 2026.

The program evaluates water quality by testing for Enterococci bacteria, an indicator of potential contamination, and turbidity, a measure of water clarity.

DPNR analyzed water samples collected from 31 designated beaches across the Territory during the monitoring period. Based on the laboratory results, the beaches listed below met established water quality standards and are considered safe for swimming and fishing:

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

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

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:

- *Coki Point on St. Thomas*
- *Grapetree Beach on St. Croix*
- *Ha'Penny Beach on St. Croix*
- *Princess (Condo Row) 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 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.