GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES
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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Friday, November 13, 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BEACH ADVISORY

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) advises the public that its Beach Water Quality Monitoring Program conducts weekly water quality testing at popular swimming beaches throughout the Territory. The program evaluates water quality by sampling for Enterococci bacteria and measuring turbidity, an indicator of water clarity.

During the week of November 9-13, 2026, DPNR analyzed water quality samples collected from 31 designated beaches across the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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

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

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

Water Island
Honeymoon Beach

The following beaches exceeded the established Enterococci bacteria threshold and did not meet water quality standards during this monitoring period. As a result, they are considered unsafe for swimming and fishing:

- Coki Point, St. Thomas
- Vessup Bay, St. Thomas
- Bluebeards Beach, St. Thomas
- New Ft. Louisa, St. Croix
- Chenay Bay, St. Croix
- Grapetree Beach, St. Croix

Water quality samples were not collected at the following locations:

- Water Bay, St. Thomas
- All monitored beaches on St. John

Because samples were not collected, current water quality conditions at these locations could not be determined. The public is advised to exercise caution when using these waters until updated monitoring results are available.

DPNR advises the public that swimming in waters affected by sewage, stormwater runoff, or excessive accumulations of sargassum may pose an increased health risk due to elevated levels of bacteria and other contaminants. Residents and visitors are urged to avoid entering waters impacted by sewage discharge, stormwater runoff, including guts, puddles, and drainage basins, areas with significant sargassum accumulation, or any waterbody that appears discolored or emits foul odors.

DPNR will continue to monitor affected waters and provide updates as necessary.

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