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PORTION OF PRETTY BAYOU UNDER ADVISORY AFTER RAW SEWAGE RELEASE
City of Panama City reports 31,250-gallons raw sewage release

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Panama City, Fla. –The City of Panama City is reporting a release of **31,250 gallons of raw sewage**. This is from a **broken force main due to contractor error**. The release entered **a canal that feeds into Pretty Bayou**. Cleanup actions have been completed

Sewage contamination of water can expose swimmers to **intestinal viruses**, **bacteria**, and **parasites**. Swimming in the water may cause **symptoms like food poisoning** with vomiting and diarrhea. **Infection is possible** in **open cuts and wounds** that come in contact with the water.

The Florida Department of Health in Bay County, DOH-Bay, **advises against swimming in Pretty Bayou or the canal feeding into it** from **Frankford Ave to the Shoreline Circle Boat Ramp**. The **City of Panama City will test** the water and share results with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Bay County Health Department. **Once levels are safe, the advisory will be lifted**.

For more information, contact the DOH-Bay's Environmental Health office at 850-481-4806 or visit Bay.FloridaHealth.gov.

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