June 28, 2022

Bay County Health Department Healthy Beaches Monitoring Program Results
There are no advisories issued for any Bay County Healthy Beaches sampling locations.

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Panama City, Fla. – The Bay County Health Department, Bay CHD, conducts saltwater beach water quality monitoring in accordance with the Healthy Beaches Monitoring Program. Water samples are collected **twice a month between March and October**. The samples are checked for **enteric bacteria** that normally inhabit the intestinal tract of humans and animals. The presence of enteric bacteria **can be an indication of fecal pollution**, which may come from storm water runoff, pets and wildlife, and human sewage. **Poor** results are posted as an "**Advisory**" at the affected beaches.

There are no advisories for any of the Bay County sampling locations.

Healthy Beaches advisories are issued **to protect swimmers from increased risk of gastrointestinal illnesses**. At a **lower occurring level**, there may also be increased risks of **upper respiratory infections**, **skin rashes**, and **ear infections**. Healthy Beach advisories are **not related to Necrotizing fasciitis**, a rare complication.

Sampling is usually done on **Mondays** with **results** on **Tuesday**, with exception of holidays. Results are shared at Bay.FloridaHealth.gov, through media releases, and **real-time** on the Florida Healthy Beaches page at **FloridaHealth.gov** and **search for "Healthy Beaches**".

Florida Healthy Beaches Program Categories are; Good = 0-35 Enterococci per 100 milliliters of marine water, Moderate = 36-70 Enterococci per 100 milliliters of marine water, and **Poor** = **71** or greater Enterococci per 100 milliliters of marine water. If **levels** are **above 70**, **Bay CHD notifies** the local **Florida Department of Environmental Protection** for further investigation.

If you have any questions, please contact the Bay County Health Department at 850-481-4806 or visit the Department of Health's Internet Beach Water Quality website at http://www.floridahealth.gov/healthy-environments/beach-water-quality/index.html.

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