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JOHNSON BAYOU UNDER ADVISORY AFTER RAW SEWAGE RELEASE

City of Panama City reports 1,600-gallon raw sewage release from manhole due to equipment failure



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Panama City, Fla. –The City of Panama City is reporting a release of **1,600 gallons of raw sewage**. This is due to a lift station malfunction at **798 Wood Avenue, Panama City**. The release came from a manhole that entered a storm drain that discharges into **Johnson Bayou**. Clean up actions are now complete.

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 Johnson Bayou** from **Garden Club Drive** south to **West Beach Drive** and **Wood Avenue** east to **Florida Avenue until further notice**. 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 at 850-481-4806 or visit Bay.FloridaHealth.gov.

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