

October 31, 2019

**PORTION OF ST. ANDREWS BAY UNDER ADVISORY AFTER RAW SEWAGE RELEASE**

***City of Panama City reports 180-gallon raw sewage release due to equipment issue***



**Contact:**

Heather Kretzer  
850-252-9670

[Heather.Kretzer@FLHealth.gov](mailto:Heather.Kretzer@FLHealth.gov)

**Panama City, Fla.** –The City of Panama City is reporting a release of **180 gallons of raw sewage**. This is due to a blockage in a force main at **30 W Government Street in Panama City**. The release entered **St. Andrews Bay**. The release is stopped, equipment repairs are done, and clean up actions are 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 St. Andrews Bay** from the **Panama City Marina to Moore Circle 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](http://Bay.FloridaHealth.gov).

**About the Florida Department of Health**

The department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

Follow us on Twitter at [@HealthyFla](#) and on [Facebook](#). For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit [www.FloridaHealth.gov](http://www.FloridaHealth.gov).