

# The Virgin Islands Consortium

## Decaying Seaweed At Vessup Bay Source Of Stench In Red Hook, DPNR Says

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ST. THOMAS -- The Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources, along with the Environmental Protection Agency, conducted a survey in an effort to determine what was causing the strong stench that enveloped the Red Hook area.

The survey included air and water sampling among other measures, as the government and federal environmental agencies canvassed Red Hook, asking residents and the business community questions pertinent to their research.

The results are in, and in a press release issued on Monday, DPNR said it, along with the Department of Public Works, have started the removal of sargassum seaweed in Vessup

Bay in Red Hook, concluding that an excessive amount of the seaweed, which has laid dormant in the area while it decayed, caused the depletion of oxygen in the bay hence producing a rotten stench.

DPNR Acting Commissioner Dawn Henry said the department was "glad to finally bring some relief to the residents and business community in Red Hook of this awful odor."

*Feature Image: Aerial view of some parts of Redhook.*

*Image Credit: Harthman Leasing.*

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