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Rainbow Beach Not Safe for Swimming and Fishing This Weekend, D.P.N.R. Warns

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Of the 33 beaches the Department of Planning and Natural Resources tested this week, the popular Rainbow Beach in Frederiksted was the only beach whose waters did not meet the quality standards deemed as safe for swimming and fishing, D.P.N.R. has announced.

D.P.N.R.'s Beach Water Quality Monitoring Program evaluates weekly water quality at popular swimming beaches throughout the territory by sampling for Enterococci bacteria and turbidity, which is a measure of water clarity.

All other tested beaches were safe for swimming and fishing. They include the following:

St. Croix

- Stony Ground
- Pelican Cove (Cormorant)
- Chenay Bay
- Dorsch Beach
- Sprat Hall
- Columbus Landing
- Frederiksted Public Beach
- Princess (Condo Row)
- Halfpenny Beach
- New Fort (Ft. Louise Augusta)
- Buccaneer
- Cramer's Park
- Cane Bay
- Shoy's
- Protestant Cay Beach

St. Thomas

- Lindbergh Bay
- Sapphire Beach
- Lindquist Beach
- Brewer's Bay
- Vessup Bay
- Water Bay
- Hull Bay
- Bluebeard's Beach
- Frenchman's Bay
- Magen's Bay
- Secret Harbor
- Coki Point
- Bolongo Bay

St. John

- Cruz Bay
- Oppenheimer
- Frank Bay
- Johnson Bay
- Great Cruz Bay

Grapetree Bay on St. Croix was not tested, therefore its water quality is unknown, D.P.N.R. said.

D.P.N.R. said all persons should be aware that storm water runoff may also contain contaminants or pollutants harmful to human health and therefore all persons should avoid areas of storm water runoff (i.e. guts, puddles, and drainage basins) or if any area appears discolored or has foul odors.

DPNR will continue to monitor the impacted areas and waters.

For additional information regarding water quality call the Division of Environmental Protection at 773-1082 in St. Croix or 774-3320 in St. Thomas.

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