

The Virgin Islands Consortium

D.P.N.R. Expects Beaches Territory-Wide To Be Affected By Storm Water Runoff, Urges Caution

Community Center / **Published On December 17, 2016 10:37 AM /**

Staff **December 17, 2016**



The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) announced Friday that due to heavy rains this week, the Division of Environmental Protection (DEP) anticipates that negative environmental impacts will be caused by storm-water runoff.

DPNR has advised the public to use caution when using the coastal waters throughout the territory until further notification. The government dept./agency is also advising parents to instruct their children to keep away from storm-water impacted beaches as well as areas with manholes and storm water flooding. There may be an elevated health risk to anyone swimming in storm water-impacted areas as a result of increased concentrations of bacteria, said D.P.N.R.

All persons should also 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). DPNR said it 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.

© Viconsortium 2026