

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Water Bay, Bolongo Bay And Oppenheimer Not Safe This Weekend, D.P.N.R. Warns

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Of the 32 beaches the Department of Planning and Natural Resources tested for swimming and fishing safety this week, only three -- Water Bay and Bolongo Bay in St. Thomas, and Oppenheimer on St. John -- were deemed unsafe.

Princess (Condo Row) and Grapetree Bay on St. Croix, and Johnson Bay in St. John, were not tested, D.P.N.R. said.

To prove safety, D.P.N.R. samples enterococci bacteria and turbidity, which is a measure of water clarity.

Below, the safe beaches:

St. Croix | Shoy's, New Fort (Ft. Louise Augusta), Dorsch, Frederiksted Public Beach, Stony Ground, Spratt Hall, Pelican Cove (Cormorant), Rainbow, Columbus Landing, Buccaneer, Protestant Cay, Chenay Bay, Cramer Park, Halfpenny and Cane Bay.

St. Thomas | Magen's Bay, Brewer's Bay, Sapphire, Lindquist, Secret Harbor, Coki Point, Lindbergh Bay, Vessup Bay, Bluebeard's, Hull Bay and Frenchman's Bay.

St. John | Cruz Bay, Great Cruz Bay and Frank Bay.

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.