

## STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

PHIL BRYANT, GOVERNOR

## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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## **MDEQ Issues Six Water Contact Advisories**

(JACKSON, Miss.) – The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), through its Beach Monitoring Program, issued water contact advisories Friday for six sampling stations. These segments of beach are not closed; however, there may be an increased risk of illness associated with swimming in these areas.

MDEQ is working closely with local officials to advise residents that the water in the following locations may have high bacteria levels:

- ► Station 1 Lakeshore Beach from the Silver Slipper Casino to Pointset Avenue.
- ► Station 2 Buccaneer State Park Beach near State Park Road.
- ► Station 4 Bay St. Louis Beach from the box culvert to Ballantine Street.
- ► Station 7 Pass Christian East Beach from Espy Avenue to Hayden Avenue.
- ► Station 9 Gulfport Harbor Beach from 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Thornton Avenue.
- ► Station 10 Gulfport Central Beach from Alfonso Drive to Arkansas Avenue.

When water samples show that levels are safe for human contact, the advisories will be lifted. Swimmers are reminded that the Beach Task Force has a standing recommendation that swimming not occur during or within 24 hours of a significant rainfall event.

More information about the Mississippi Beach Monitoring Program and the status of beach advisories is available at: <a href="http://opcgis.deq.state.ms.us/beaches">http://opcgis.deq.state.ms.us/beaches</a>.

To receive beach advisories directly, send an email to rwilbur@deq.state.ms.us for inclusion in a public group email list, text "MDEQbeach" to 95577, or follow MDEQ on Twitter: @MDEQ. ####