



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
PHIL BRYANT, GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2015
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**MDEQ Issues One Water Contact Advisory
One Advisory Lifted and One Remains**

(JACKSON, Miss.) -- The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), through its Beach Monitoring Program, issued a water contact advisory Wednesday for a sampling station in Harrison County. This segment of beach is not closed; however, there may be an increased risk of illness associated with swimming in this area.

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

● **Station 10 – Gulfport Central Beach – from Alfonso Drive east to Arkansas Avenue.**

The advisory issued March 13 for this station remains in effect:

● **Station 12B – Biloxi East Central Beach – from St. Peter Street east to Dukate Street.**

When water samples show that levels are safe for human contact, the advisories will be lifted. The Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, which performs water sampling of the Mississippi Gulf Coast beaches for MDEQ, notifies the agency when an area has returned to acceptable levels.

A water contact advisory that was issued March 13 for the following beach monitoring station has been lifted. Water samples at this station show the area has attained acceptable

bacteria levels.

●Station 10B – East Courthouse Road Beach in Gulfport – from Courthouse Road east to Tegarden Road.

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 on the Mississippi Beach Monitoring Program:

<http://www.usm.edu/gcrl/msbeach/index.cgi>.

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.

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