

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI PHIL BRYANT, GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY GARY C. RIKARD, Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 21, 2015 Contact: Robbie Wilbur 601/961-5277

MDEQ Lifts Water Contact Advisory for Station in Gulfport Two Stations Still Under Advisory

(JACKSON, Miss.) -- The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), through its Beach Monitoring Program, lifted a water contact advisory Saturday that was issued March 19 for the following beach monitoring station:

•Station 11 – Gulfport East Beach – from Tegarden east to Anniston Avenue.

Water samples at this station show the area has attained acceptable bacteria levels. The Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, which performs water sampling of the Mississippi Gulf Coast beaches for MDEQ, notifies the agency when an area returns to acceptable levels and safe conditions.

Advisories are still in effect for these two stations:

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

•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.

More information on the Mississippi Beach Monitoring Program is available at: <u>http://www.usm.edu/gcrl/msbeach/index.cgi</u>.

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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