STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
PHIL BRYANT, GOVERNOR
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
TRUDY D. FISHER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 3, 2014
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MDEQ Issues Water Contact Advisory

(JACKSON, Miss.) -- The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), through its Beach Monitoring Program, issued a water contact advisory Thursday 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 12A -- Biloxi West Central -- from Travia Avenue east to Iberville Drive.

Advisories were issued April 2 for the following stations:

●Station 7 -- Pass Christian East -- from Espy Avenue east to Hayden Avenue.
●Station 9 -- Gulfport Harbor -- from 20th Avenue east to Thornton Avenue.
●Station 10 -- Gulfport Central -- from Alfonso Drive east to Arkansas Avenue.
●Station 10B -- East Courthouse Rd. -- from Courthouse Road east to Tegarden Road.

Also, a closure was issued April 2 for:

●Station 5 -- Pass Christian West -- from Fort Henry east to Elliot Avenue.

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.

Additionally, 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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