

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

PHIL BRYANT, GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Release Date: 08/25/2016

Title: MDEQ Lifts Four Water Contact Advisories

Three Other Advisories in Effect

Author: Robbie Wilbur Publish: Yes

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 25, 2016

Contact: Robbie Wilbur

601/961-5277

MDEQ Lifts Four Water Contact Advisories Three Other Advisories in Effect

(JACKSON, Miss.) – The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), through its Beach Monitoring Program, lifted water contact advisories Thursday for sampling stations 5, 7, 7A, and 14. Advisories remain in effect for stations 4, 11, and 15.

The advisories are lifted for:

- ► Station 5 Pass Christian West Beach from Fort Henry Ave. east to Elliot St.
- ► Station 7 -- Pass Christian East Beach -- from Espy Ave. east to Hayden Ave.
- ► Station 7A -- Long Beach Beach -- from Oak Gardens east to Girard Ave.
- ► Station 14 -- Front Beach -- near Martin Ave. in Ocean Springs. The extent is from the Yacht Club east to Jackson Ave.

Advisories are still in effect for:

▶ Station 4 -- Bay St. Louis Beach -- near St. Charles St. -- from the Box Culvert east to Ballantine St.

- ► Station 11 -- Gulfport East Beach -- from Tegarden Rd. east to Anniston Ave.
- ► Station 15 Shearwater Beach in Ocean Springs from Weeks Bayou east to Ashley.

These segments of beach are not closed; however, there may be an increased risk of illness associated with swimming in these areas.

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: http://opcgis.deq.state.ms.us/beaches. A list of Frequently Asked Questions about the program can be found at: http://opcgis.deq.state.ms.us/beaches/moreinfo.html.

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.