

MDEQ ISSUES WATER CONTACT ADVISORY FOR ONE LOCATION

(JACKSON, Miss.) -- The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), through its Beach Monitoring Program, issued a water contact advisory today 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 those areas. MDEQ is working closely with local officials to advise residents that the water in the following location may have high bacteria levels:

● **Sampling Station 12B** -- Biloxi East Central Beach -- near Porter Avenue in Biloxi.

When water samples show that levels are safe for human contact, the advisory 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 or follow MDEQ on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/#!/MDEQ>.

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