

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

PHIL BRYANT, GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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MDEQ LIFTS BEACH CLOSURES FOR SEVERAL STATIONS

(JACKSON, Miss.) -- The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), through its Beach Monitoring Program, has lifted beach closures issued August 31 for the following monitoring stations in Harrison County:

Station 9 – **Gulfport Harbor Beach** near Pratt Avenue. The extent is from 20th Avenue eastward to Thornton Avenue.

Station 10 -- Gulfport Central Beach at the Armed Forces Retirement Center near Oak Avenue. The extent is from Alfonso Drive eastward to the old Armed Forces Retirement Center Main Entrance.

Station 10A -- Courthouse Road Beach near Courthouse Road west parking lot. The extent is from the old VA Main Entrance eastward to Courthouse Road.

Station 11 -- Gulfport East Beach near Cowan/Lorraine Road. The extent is from Teagarden Road eastward to Anniston Avenue.

Water samples show the areas have 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.

For more information on what stations are open and closed, access the Mississippi Beach Monitoring Program at: 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.