

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 8, 2013 Contact: Robbie Wilbur 601/961-5277

MDEQ Lifts Four Water Contact Advisories All Stations Along the Coast are Open

(JACKSON, Miss.) -- The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), through its Beach Monitoring Program, has lifted four water contact advisories issued for the following beach monitoring stations. There are currently no stations under an advisory.

- Station 5 -- Pass Christian West from Fort Henry Avenue to Elliot Street.
- •Station 6 -- Pass Christian Central -- from Henderson Avenue to Heirn Avenue.
- •Station 7A -- Long Beach from Oak Gardens to Girard.
- •Station 8 -- Gulfport West from Marie Avenue to Camp Avenue.

Water samples at these stations 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.

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 "beach" to 601-863-8082, or follow MDEQ on Twitter at <u>http://twitter.com/#!/MDEQ</u>.

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