

Northside Park Beach, Atlantic Ocean



Beach location: Hampton
Number of NHDES sampling stations: 3
NHDES sampling frequency: 2 times per month
Year sampling began: 2003

What does the NHDES Beach Program do?

The New Hampshire Beach Inspection Program monitors water for fecal bacteria at public beaches between Memorial Day and Labor Day. When elevated levels of fecal indicator bacteria are identified, an advisory is issued to inform and protect the public from possible illness while swimming. Once an advisory is issued, beaches are resampled until bacteria levels are acceptable.

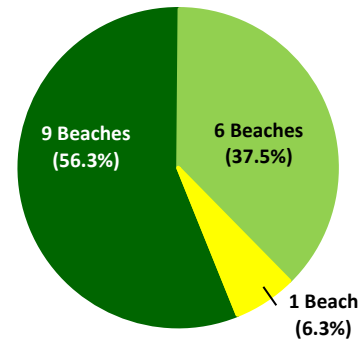
2021 Northside Park Beach Sampling Results

Very Good 100% of Samples are Clean
Total samples taken: 21 Total unclean samples: 0 Advisories issued: 0 Average length of advisories: 0 days

2021 New Hampshire Coastal Marine Beaches

How Clean Were N.H. Beaches in 2021?

NH beaches are categorized based on how many samples collected are "clean" (bacteria result is lower than the state standard of 104 counts/100ml). Using the samples collected at 16 coastal marine beaches in 2021, 9 beaches were categorized as Very Good, 6 beaches were categorized as Good, and 1 beach was categorized as Fair.



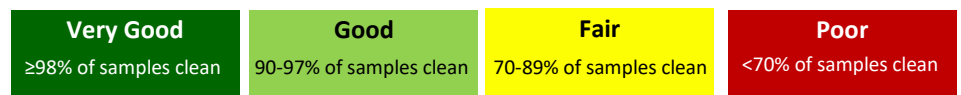
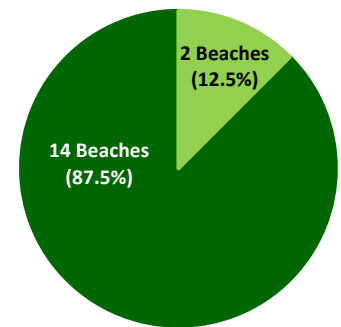
2003-2021 Northside Park Beach Sampling Results

Very Good 99.4% of Samples are Clean
Total samples taken: 532 Total unclean samples: 3 Advisories issued: 2 Average length of advisories: 2 days

2003-2021 New Hampshire Coastal Marine Beaches

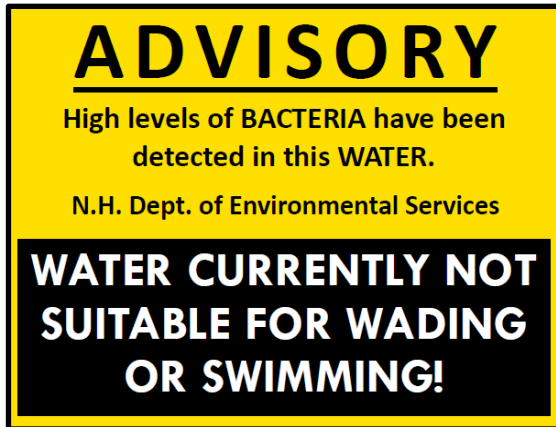
How Clean Were N.H. Beaches Since 2003?

NH beaches are categorized based on how many samples collected are "clean" (bacteria result is lower than the state standard of 104 counts/100ml). Using the samples collected at 16 coastal marine beaches from 2003-2021, 14 beaches were categorized as Very Good, and 2 beaches were categorized as Good.



What triggers a beach advisory?

Three to five water samples are collected at each visit. If a sample comes back with fecal bacteria levels above the state standard of 104 counts/100mL (for Enterococci bacteria), a **Beach Advisory** is issued. Advisories DO NOT close a beach. When an advisory is issued, the water is tested again until a clean result is returned.



-ADVISORY- signs are displayed at beach entry points when bacteria advisories are issued. Advisories and results are posted online.

What can I do?

It is important for you to know when bacteria levels may be elevated, such as following a rain event. Fecal contamination can come from many sources, including swimmers, wildlife, nearby septic systems, storm drains and farm runoff. To help protect your health and that of your beach, discourage the feeding of wildlife, such as seagulls and geese.



Stay Connected with the Beach Program

Current advisories are posted at:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/advisories>

Beach data can be viewed through the One Stop Database:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/onestop-navigation>

Subscribe to NHDES newsletters!

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Questions about beaches and sampling can be directed to:

Michele Condon, Beach Program Coordinator, (603) 271-0698, (603) 848-8094, beaches@des.nh.gov