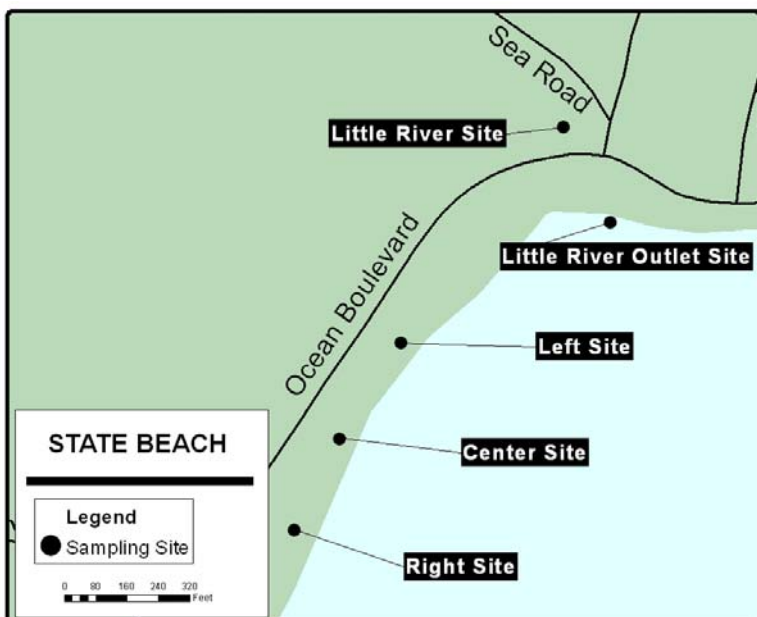


### North Hampton State Beach Sampling Program

Water from North Hampton State Beach is collected and analyzed twice a week from Memorial Day to Labor Day for fecal bacteria. When fecal bacteria are present and reach certain thresholds, it means that harmful organisms are likely growing in the water. This causes the water to be unsafe for swimming so DES issues a beach advisory. When an advisory is issued, yellow signs are posted at the beach entry points. Advisory notices are also posted on the DES webpage.



**North Hampton State Beach Sampling:** Water is collected from these three sampling sites.

North Hampton State Beach by the Numbers	
Advisories issued in 2011:	2
Advisories from 2002-2011:	7
Average length of advisory:	2 days

Beach advisories posted at:  
[www2.des.state.nh.us/Advisories/Beaches](http://www2.des.state.nh.us/Advisories/Beaches)

### Summary: North Hampton State Beach

Since 2002, just over 4 percent of samples collected at North Hampton State Beach have exceeded the state standard. In 2011, two advisories were issued for North Hampton State Beach.

No illnesses due to the swimming water at North Hampton State Beach have been reported to DES.

### Beach Comparison

In 2011, advisories were issued for Hampton Beach State Park, Seabrook Harbor Beach and North Hampton State Beach.

New Hampshire coastal waters have been rated first in the nation for the 2009 and 2010 swim season by the Natural Resources Defence Council. Just 1 percent of all samples collected in 2011 exceeded the state standard.

## NH COASTAL BEACHES



## DES BEACH WATER TESTING

- Water from 16 coastal beaches is analyzed regularly for fecal bacteria during the summer months.
- The coastal beach water standard is 104 bacteria colonies per 100 milliliters of water.
- If the water has less than 104 bacteria colonies, no advisory is issued. Swimming is most likely safe.
- If the water has more than 104 bacteria colonies, the beach is under an advisory. Swimming is NOT RECOMMENDED. The water is retested as soon as possible. The advisory remains in effect until the water has less than 104 bacteria colonies.

**DES posts beach advisories; it does NOT close beaches.**

### ADVISORY DETAILS

Current advisories posted at:

[www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov)

Click on "Beach Advisory" at left

Follow the Beach Twitter Feed:

[twitter.com/NHDES\\_Beaches](https://twitter.com/NHDES_Beaches)

### HELP KEEP THE WATER CLEAN!

- **Dispose of pet waste properly.**
- **Maintain your septic system.**
- **Put swim diapers on babies.**

## ADVISORY

High levels of BACTERIA have been detected in this WATER.  
N.H. Dept. of Environmental Services

**WATER CURRENTLY NOT SUITABLE FOR WADING OR SWIMMING!**

Exposure to this water may cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or fever.  
Children, the elderly and others with sensitive immune systems are especially vulnerable.

←When this sign is posted, bacteria levels are high. Avoid contact with the water. For more information:

**(603) 271-0698** or  
**(603) 419-9229**