

Seeley Beach on Phillips Pond



Beach location: Sandown
Number of NHDES sampling stations: 2
NHDES sampling frequency: 3 times each summer
Year sampling began: 2003

What does the NHDES Beach Program do?

To protect the public from possible illness while swimming, the New Hampshire Beach Inspection Program monitors water for fecal bacteria at over 200 beaches each summer. Freshwater beaches are typically sampled once per month and most of the saltwater (coastal) beaches are sampled once to twice per week. Some towns and other agencies will also monitor at certain beaches and report results to NHDES.

2018 Sampling Results

Very Good
100% of Samples Clean

Total samples taken: 6
 Total unclean samples: 0
 Advisories issued: 0
 Average length of advisories: 0 days
 Advisory date: N/A

Key

Very Good
 ≥98% of samples clean

Good
 90-97% of samples clean

Fair
 70-89% of samples clean

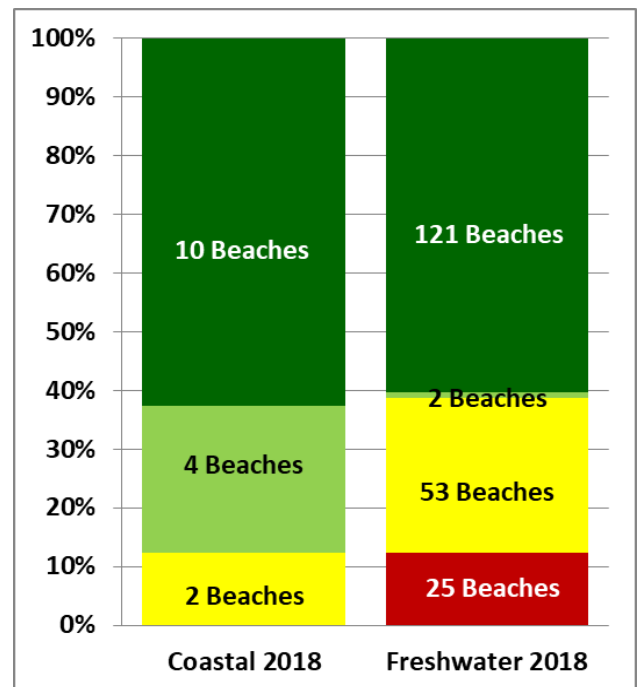
Poor
 <70% of samples clean

2003-2018 Sampling Results

Good
96% of Samples Clean

Total samples taken: 114
 Total unclean samples: 5
 Advisories issued: 2
 Average length of advisories: 1 days

2018 New Hampshire Beach Rankings

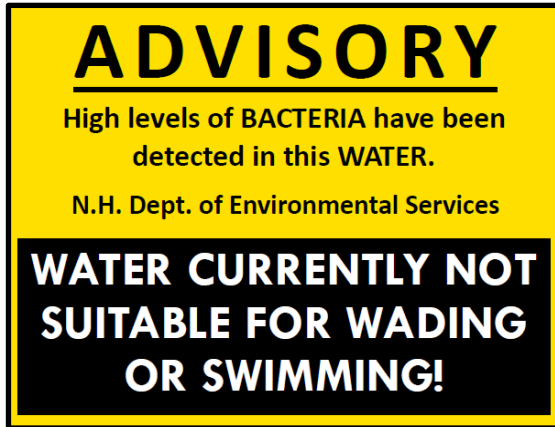


How Clean Are New Hampshire Beaches? Clean water samples, with results below the state criteria, were compared to the total number of samples tested for each beach to rank beaches based on the percentage of clean samples. Saltwater (Coastal) and freshwater beaches in the New Hampshire assessment are often categorized as “Good” or “Very Good,” where NH beaches are clean more than 90% of the time.



What triggers a beach advisory?

Two to three water samples are collected at each visit. If *two* samples come back with fecal bacteria levels above the state standard of 88 counts/100mL of water – OR – if *one* sample comes back above 158 counts/100 mL (for *E.coli* 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 posted at www.des.nh.gov.

At left, under:



Subscribe to our newsletter. Select "Beach Advisories" at:

<http://des.nh.gov/media/enews/index.htm>



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Questions about beaches and sampling can be directed to:

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