

**Freshwater Beach Inspection
Annual Report
Summer Sampling 2012**



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2012 Public Bathing Beach Inspection Program Freshwater Beaches

In 2012, freshwater beaches were inspected by the Public Bathing Beach Inspection Program from June 28 to August 28. The goal of the freshwater beach program is to inspect each beach in the program three times over between Memorial Day and Labor Day. In 2012, DES personnel performed 571 beach inspections at 160 freshwater beaches in 11 weeks. Of these inspections, 503 were routine, scheduled, inspections while the remaining 68 inspections were related to elevated bacteria levels and advisories. Drinking Water & Groundwater Bureau personnel conducted 107 routine inspections at juvenile camp beaches. The 704 inspections conducted yielded a total of 1,609 E. coli samples analyzed by the state laboratory, including trip blanks and field duplicates. In 2012, 176 E. coli samples exceeded the state standards, resulting in the issuance of 56 freshwater beach advisories. The percentage of E. coli samples exceeding the state standard was only 11%, the lowest since 2008. The most likely reason for the reduction in bacteria violations was the dry weather in June and July. Reduced rainfall means less wastes from the land being washed into nearby ponds and lakes. Of the 40 beaches with elevated bacteria levels leading to advisories, only 16 also had advisories in 2011. Nine additional beach advisories were issued for cyanobacteria, one less than issued in 2011. Of those nine cyanobacteria advisories, four were issued for Silver Lake State Park in Hollis. However, not all cyanobacteria blooms occur on a beach. Since 2008, DES has issued cyanobacteria lake warnings if an algae bloom occurs far away from a beach or on a lake without a public beach. Only one cyanobacteria warning was issued in 2012, the fewest issued since the protocol began in 2008.

Nine pre-emptive fecal bacteria advisories were issued at Ahern State Park, Laconia, five less than in 2011. Pre-emptive advisories are issued when >0.25 inches of rain falls in a 24 hour period at the state park. In addition to the rainfall reduction in the beginning of the summer, the monitoring unit was turned off the week after Labor Day and not in late October as happened in the past. Additional sampling will be conducted in the summer of 2013 after heavy rainfall at Ahern State Park to determine if the efforts to reduce the goose population by letting the grass grow tall have been successful.

In preparation for the 2013 sampling season, the DES Beach Program has created the following tools:

1. A map searchable by town on the beach advisory page to show where current advisories are located.
http://www2.des.state.nh.us/WaterShed_BeachMaps/WaterShed_BeachMaps.aspx
2. An individual report is now available for each freshwater beach through the OneStop beach search. Increase the visibility of the beach program so the public is better informed of the purpose and extent of sampling conducted each summer.
<http://www2.des.state.nh.us/DESOnestop/BasicSearch.aspx>

Table 1. *E. coli* advisories issued for New Hampshire Lakes in 2012. Advisories issued when a single sample was over 158 cts/100ml of water or two samples were over 88 cts/100ml of water. (#) indicates the number of advisories in 2011. (*) indicates advisory removed at the end of the swimming season.

Beach Name	Town	Sample Date	Post Start Date	Post End Date	<i>E. coli</i> (cts/100ml)			Total Days Posted
					LF	CR	RT	
Catamount Pond Beach at Bear Brook State Park (1)	Allenstown	8/22/12	8/23/12	8/24/12	8	>400	22	1
Alton Bay Town Beach	Alton	8/16/12	8/17/12	8/21/12	146	104	136	4
Gregg Lake Town Beach	Antrim	7/16/12	7/17/12	7/19/12	14	120	160	2
Point Beach on Locke Lake	Barnstead	6/14/12	6/15/12	6/19/12	n/a	110	n/a	4
Whittemore Pond Town Beach	Bennington	6/21/12	6/22/12	6/26/12	>400	n/a	>400	4
Canaan Street Lake Beach	Canaan	7/18/12	7/19/12	7/21/12	280	n/a	28	2
Liquid Planet Water Park	Candia	8/16/12	8/18/12	8/21/12	260	n/a	>400	3
Crystal Lake Town Beach	Eaton	8/23/12	8/24/12	8/25/12	190	<2	<2	1
Ellacoya RV Park (1)	Gilford	7/24/12	7/25/12	7/26/12	n/a	>400	n/a	1
Ellacoya State Park Beach (1)	Gilford	8/14/12	8/15/12	8/17/12	110	>400	18	2
		7/24/12	7/25/12	7/26/12	110	270	2	1
Crystal Lake Town Beach	Gilmanton	7/19/12	7/20/12	7/23/12	20	44	160	3
		8/16/12	8/17/12	8/21/12	210	150	168	4
Glen Lake Park Beach	Goffstown	6/20/12	6/21/12	6/24/12	n/a	124	n/a	3
Greenfield SP Picnic Beach (1)	Greenfield	7/16/12	7/17/12	7/21/12	150	200	370	4
Zephyr Lake Town Beach	Greenfield	8/13/12	8/14/12	8/16/12	160	n/a	26	2
Sunset Lake Town Beach on Wash Pond (2)	Hampstead	7/31/12	8/2/12	8/3/12	n/a	390	n/a	1
		8/7/12	8/9/12	8/10/12	n/a	150	n/a	1
		8/20/12	8/22/12	8/23/12	n/a	n/a	>400	1
Chesham Beach	Harrisville	8/3/12	8/4/12	8/7/12	226	n/a	356	3
Beard's Brook Town Beach (1)	Hillsborough	7/16/12	7/17/12	8/16/12	>400	n/a	>400	30
Manahan Park Beach on Pierce Lake	Hillsborough	7/16/12	7/17/12	7/19/12	42	120	360	2
		8/13/12	8/14/12	8/15/12	62	>400	18	1
Hummingbird Beach	Hillsborough	7/16/12	7/17/12	7/19/12	110	n/a	90	2
		8/13/12	8/14/12	8/15/12	42	n/a	210	1
Elm Brook Park	Hopkinton	8/9/12	8/10/12	8/17/12	115	365	58	7
Robinson Pond Town Beach	Hudson	6/29/12	6/30/12	7/25/12	94	180	226	25
		8/10/12	8/11/12	8/22/12	>400	>400	228	11

Beach Name	Town	Sample Date	Post Start Date	Post End Date	E. coli (cts/100ml)			Total Days Posted
					LF	CR	RT	
Endicott Park Beach, AKA Weirs Beach (1)	Laconia	6/26/12	6/27/12	6/30/12	6	64	198	3
		7/24/12	7/25/12	7/27/12	84	180	>400	2
Bartlett Beach (1)	Laconia	6/28/12	6/29/12	7/3/12	86	130	120	4
Cove Beach at Opechee Park (3)	Laconia	7/24/12	7/25/12	8/23/12	38	170	210	29
Point Beach at Opechee Park	Laconia	7/26/12	7/27/12	7/28/12	28	8	>400	1
Monument Beach on Silver Lake	Madison	7/6/12	7/7/12	7/10/12	>400	n/a	140	3
Milton 3 Ponds Rec Area	Milton	7/19/12	7/20/12	7/31/12	80	200	52	11
Pawtuckaway State Park Beach (1)	Nottingham	7/9/12	7/10/12	7/12/12	284	388	>400	2
		7/31/12	8/1/12	8/3/12	>400	182	178	2
		8/3/12	8/4/12	8/8/12	>400	210	214	4
		8/22/12	8/23/12	8/24/12	130	230	230	1
Pine Acres Campground	Raymond	8/7/12	8/10/12	8/30/12	148	7380	2280	20
Pearly Lake Beach	Rindge	8/9/12	8/10/12	8/14/12	>400	n/a	>400	4
		8/14/12	8/15/12	8/18/12	100	n/a	120	3
Camp Otter Beach (1)	Salem	8/15/12	8/16/12	8/31/12	>400	n/a	>400	15
Hedgehog	Salem	7/5/12	7/6/12	7/10/12	32	n/a	330	4
		8/1/12	8/2/12	8/10/12	170	n/a	>400	8
Arlington Pond Improvement Association Beach (1)	Salem	7/5/12	7/6/12	7/10/12	270	n/a	206	4
		8/1/12	8/2/12	8/4/12	280	n/a	62	2
Camp Hadar	Salem	7/5/12	7/6/12	7/10/12	>400	n/a	>400	4
		8/15/12	8/16/12	8/17/12	>400	n/a	>400	1
Camp Y-Wood	Salem	8/15/12	8/16/12	8/17/12	170	n/a	120	1
Blodgett's Landing	Sunapee	8/1/12	8/2/12	8/4/12	n/a	130	n/a	2
Sand Dam Rec Area (1)	Troy	6/21/12	6/22/12	6/26/12	4	n/a	210	4
		7/9/12	7/10/12	7/31/12	n/a	387	n/a	21
Mirror Lake Beach	Tuftonboro	7/2/12	7/3/12	7/6/12	10	n/a	220	3
Mill Pond (1)	Washington	7/27/12	7/28/12	7/31/12	>400	n/a	364	3
Wentworth State Park Beach (1)	Wofeboro	7/2/12	7/3/12	7/5/12	340	10	8	2

Table 2: Cyanobacteria advisory notices issued for New Hampshire Beaches in 2012.

Beach	Town	Dominant Cyanobacteria	Date Posted	Date Removed	Total Days Posted
Sawyer Lake	Gilmanton	<i>Anabaena</i>	5/31/2012	6/7/2012	7
Silver Lake	Hollis	<i>Anabaena</i>	6/21/2012	7/4/2012	13
Forest Lake	Winchester	<i>Oscillatoria</i>	7/16/2012	7/27/2012	11
Silver Lake	Hollis	<i>Anabaena</i>	7/31/2012	8/2/2012	2
French Pond	Henniker	<i>Anabaena</i>	7/31/2012	8/14/2012	14
Silver Lake	Hollis	<i>Anabaena</i>	8/10/2012	8/21/2012	11
Long Pond	Pelham	<i>Anabaena</i>	8/21/2012	9/3/2012	13
Silver Lake	Hollis	<i>Anabaena</i>	8/22/2012	8/29/2012	7
Showell Pond	Sandown	<i>Coelosphaerium</i>	8/14/2012	10/20/2012	67

Table 3: Cyanobacteria warnings issued for New Hampshire lakes in 2012.

Lake	Town	Dominant Cyanobacteria	Date Posted	Date Unposted	Total Days Posted
Long Pond	Pelham	<i>Anabaena</i>	9/6/2012	10/18/2012	42