

Bathing Beach Program



Deep Spring Woods 1– Wonder Lake

MCDH

Program Objectives

- **Prevention of accidents**
- **Prevention of illness**

Illinois Swimming Facility Code

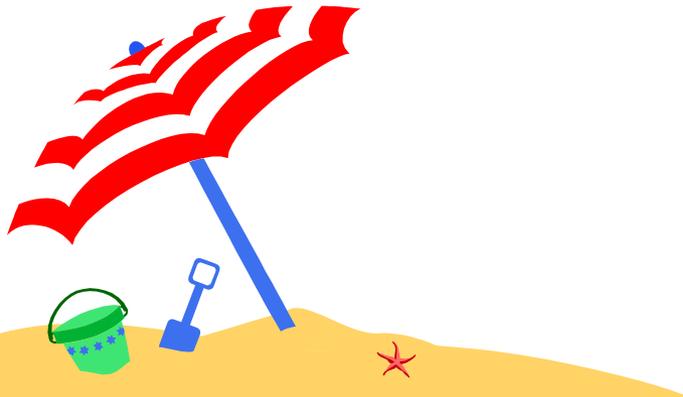
- **Licensure**
- **Life Safety**
- **Sanitation**
- **Water Quality Standards**
- **MCDH agreement with IDPH for local oversight**



Shore Hills, Wonder Lake

“Public Bathing Beach”

- Any body of water used for the purpose of public swimming or recreational bathing.
- Includes subdivision/association beaches
- Does not include beaches at private residences for private use.



Role of Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)

- Review and approve IDPH application for Swimming Facility
 - www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/swimmingpools.htm
- Issue facility license for each beach.
- Illinois Department of Public Health Swimming Facility Act
- Administer IDPH website.
- Provide beach regulations sign.
- Review written requests for waiver of the requirements of IDPH Swimming Facility Act Subsection (d)(2).
- Follow-up investigations of any drowning or any injury or illnesses that required hospitalization.

IDPH Drowning/Injury Report



State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Public Health

DROWNING / INJURY / ILLNESS / INCIDENT REPORT

Section 820.315 of the Illinois Swimming Facility Code requires all drownings, injuries, illnesses, or incidents requiring hospitalization to be reported to the Department within 24 hours. In addition, this form must be completed and returned to the office that serves your facility within seven days of the incident. A separate report shall be completed for each victim. In the event of a drowning, the Department's Springfield Office should be advised immediately at 217-782-5830. After work hours, drownings may be reported to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency at 1-800-782-7860. This form may also be used to advise the Department of accidents, illnesses, skin irritations or minor injuries associated with use of the facility.

FACILITY INFORMATION

This facility is licensed as: (Indoor or Outdoor) Swimming Pool Spa Bathing Beach Water Slide

TYPE OF FACILITY

Educational Fitness/Health Club Apartment/Condominium State Owned Hotel/Motel Country Club

Other _____

Name of Facility _____ Facility ID# _____

Street Address _____ City _____ County _____

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

ILLNESS INJURY FATALITY ACCIDENT

Name of Victim _____ Age _____ Male Female

Victim Address _____ Telephone _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Description of incident, including date, time, and circumstances (Attach additional sheets, if necessary and police reports, if available)

SUPERVISION AT TIME OF ACCIDENT

If lifeguards were provided, names of all guards on duty at time of incident and attach a copy of their current certificate.

Was the facility open for swimming at the time of the incident? Yes No

Name of medical facility that provided treatment or diagnosis _____

Address _____ City _____

For additional information concerning this incident, the Department may contact

Name _____ Title _____ Telephone _____

This report was completed and submitted by

Name _____ Title _____ Telephone _____

The Illinois Department of Public Health is requesting disclosure of information necessary to accomplish the statutory purpose as outlined under Public Act 097-0957. Disclosure of this information is mandatory.

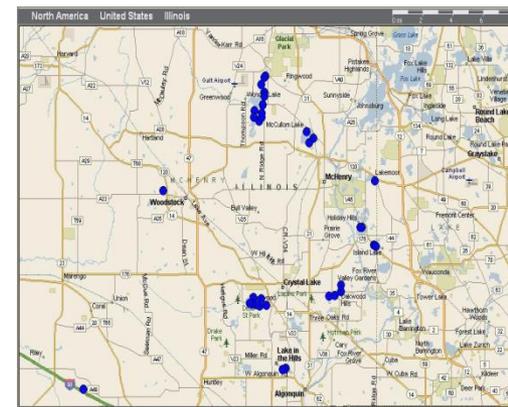
Submit this completed form to: Illinois Department of Public Health, 525 W. Jefferson St., Springfield, IL 62761
Phone 217-782-5830 • Fax 217-785-0253

SUBMIT

- Drowning, injury or illness requiring hospitalization shall be reported by the beach operator/manager to IDPH and the McHenry County Department of Health within 24 hours
- Form must be completed and returned to the IDPH- Rockford Regional office within 7 days of incident
- Separate report for each victim
- In the event of a drowning, IDPH Springfield office shall be immediately advised by the beach operator/manager at 217-782-5830 or after hours 1-800-782-7860

Role of McHenry County Department of Health

- Beach water sampling.
- Bathing beach licensure inspections.
- Re-inspections as necessary to assure compliance.
- Respond to and investigate beach regulatory compliance complaints and initial response to illness or injury reports.
- Beach operator notification for closure or advisory.
- Provide the public with timely information on bacterial water quality :
 - MCDH Website which is directly linked with the IDPH Website
 - MCDH Water Quality Advisory Signs posted at each beach
 - Press Releases



Operator Responsibilities

- Submit application for beach construction permit to IDPH prior to construction of any proposed beach.
- Understand requirements of IDPH Swimming Facility Act and assure compliance for bathing beach.
- Submit annual IDPH Application and fee for Swimming Facility License renewal.
- Submit MCDH invoice payment for water sample collection, analysis and inspections.
- Provide beach operator contact information.
- Ensure bathing beach water for bacterial (E coli) analysis.
- Protection of bathers from schistosome dermatitis (Swimmer's itch) by posting warning signs and treatment of the beach or beach closure.
- Maintain bathing beach safety requirements (buoys, telephone, diving structures, lifeguard).
- Maintain and enforce beach bather load.
- Maintain beach free of debris.
- Provide and enforce beach closure throughout the year.



Beach Inspections

- 1 Licensure inspections per season prior to opening for the beach season
- Licensure inspections will be conducted the week of May 11, 2020
- Beaches must be in substantial compliance with the Illinois Swimming Facility Code

(Illinois Swimming Facility Code)

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/077/077008200E04000R.html>

Beach Inspections (cont.)

- A sample of the items required

(A full check list was included with the invoices)

- U.S. Coast Guard approved ring buoys
- Wading and swimming area buoys
- Outer limit markers every 100 feet
- IDPH Regulation sign posted
- Telephone within 500 feet of beach
- Toilets within 300 feet
- Beach clear of debris/rubbish
- Operating hours displayed
- Lifeguard provided or children accompanied by responsible person
- MCDH metal beach advisory sign



IDPH Beach Regulations Sign



Beach Regulations Sign can be obtained by request or download:

- The beach water is not suitable for drinking. Avoid swallowing beach water.
- Admission to the beach may be refused to all persons having any contagious disease, infectious conditions such as colds, fever, ringworm, foot infections, skin lesions, carbuncles, boils, diarrhea, vomiting, inflamed eyes, ear discharges, or any other condition which has the appearance of being infectious. Persons with excessive sunburn, abrasions which have not healed, corn plasters, bunion pads, adhesive tape, rubber bandages, or other bandages of any kind may also be refused admittance. A person under the influence of alcohol or exhibiting erratic behavior shall not be permitted in the beach area.
- Littering is prohibited. In addition, no food, drink, gum or tobacco is allowed in the water. Glass containers are prohibited throughout the beach area.
- All children who are not toilet-trained shall wear tight fitting rubber or plastic pants.
- No one should swim alone.
- Persons under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a responsible person 16 years of age or older unless a lifeguard is present.
- Personal conduct within the beach must be such that safety is not jeopardized.
- Diving in shallow water is not permitted.
- Caution shall be exercised in the use of diving facilities.
- Swimming is prohibited after sunset or before sunrise, or when lightning is present, including a 15 - minute period after the last lightning is observed.
- No pets are permitted in the beach area.
- Feeding of wildlife or other actions that encourage their presence is prohibited.
- Patrons are encouraged to protect themselves from sun exposure.

- www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/beachregs.htm
- Must be posted at the beach

Characteristics of Surface Water Quality

- **No Disinfection/No Filtration**
- **Variability of Conditions**
- **Multiple Influences**
 - **Weather (precipitation, wind, temp.)**
 - **Storm-water Run-off**
 - **Wild/Domestic Animals**
 - **Agricultural Run-off**
 - **Wastewater (illicit discharges)**
 - **Treatment (i.e. weed/algae control)**
 - **Bathers**

Potential Causes of Waterborne Illness

- **Bacterial**

- E coli, Shigella

- **Viral**

- Norovirus

- **Parasitic**

- Schistosome Dermatitis
(swimmer's itch)

- Cryptosporidium

- Giardia

- **Chemical**



Potential Routes of Exposure

- **Ingestion**
 - **Gastrointestinal**
- **Dermal**
 - **Swimmer's itch**
 - **Ear infection**

Rock Cut State Park Rockford

- **1995**
- **12 confirmed cases**
- **E coli 0157:H7**
- **Basis for bacteriological quality indicator – E coli**



Rock Cut State Park

Why use E. coli?

- E. coli is the most effective available primary “indicator” for predicting the presence of illness-causing pathogens due to fecal contamination.
- E. coli bacteria naturally occur in the digestive tract of warm blooded animals
- The most frequent illness caused by this exposure is gastroenteritis. Symptoms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, and fever. Illnesses of the upper respiratory tract, and minor skin, eye, ear, nose and throat infections have also been associated with pathogen exposures.
- Individuals with compromised immune systems and children(level of activity and opportunities for ingestion of water) are most vulnerable to these illnesses.



E coli Testing

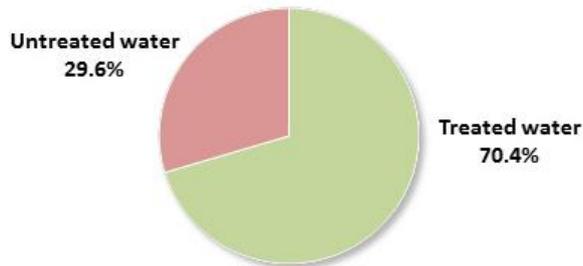
- Typical Sources of E coli:
 - Domestic animals and waterfowl waste
 - Stormwater Runoff
 - Human influences (i.e. infants entering water in diapers/wastewater)
- E coli analysis is the beach sampling standard adopted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as of 2003.
- The McHenry County Department of Health Laboratory uses a 24 or 18 hour test (Colilert Quantitray method) which accurately enumerates E coli.



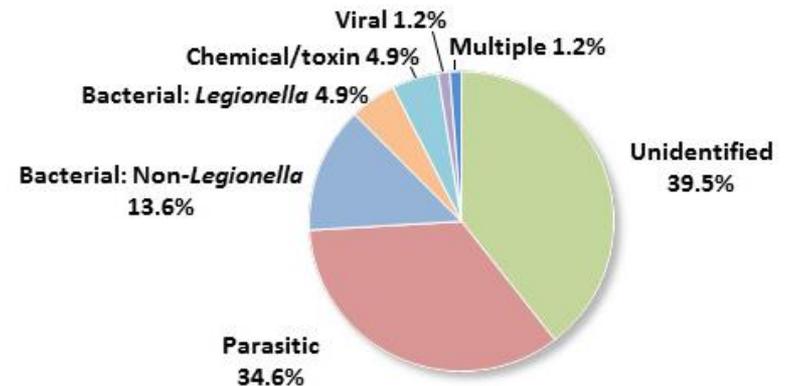
E coli testing by Colilert Quantitray

Gastrointestinal Outbreaks – Untreated Recreational Waters 2009-2010

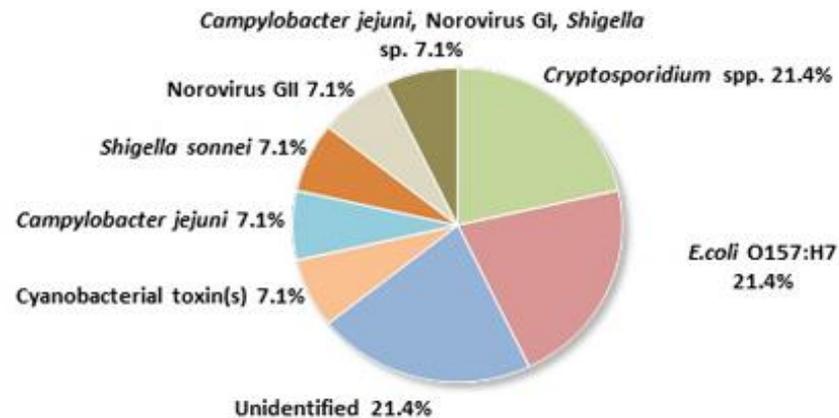
Type of Exposure (n = 81)



Etiology (n = 81)[†]



Etiology: Untreated Water (n = 14)*



Waterborne Outbreaks Associated with Untreated Recreational Waters 2009 – 2010

- 24 Outbreaks
 - 19 Lake Reservoir*
 - 3 River/Stream*
 - 1 Ocean*
 - 1 Pond*
- 296 Cases of illness
- 13 Different states
(None in Illinois)

Ways to Improve Water Quality

- Do not encourage waterfowl by feeding ducks or geese.
- Maintain beach area free of geese feces and debris/garbage
- Encourage parents to remind children to use toilets frequently
- Ensure infants wear tight fitting rubber or plastic pants if they enter the beach water
- Report any illicit discharges to MCDH

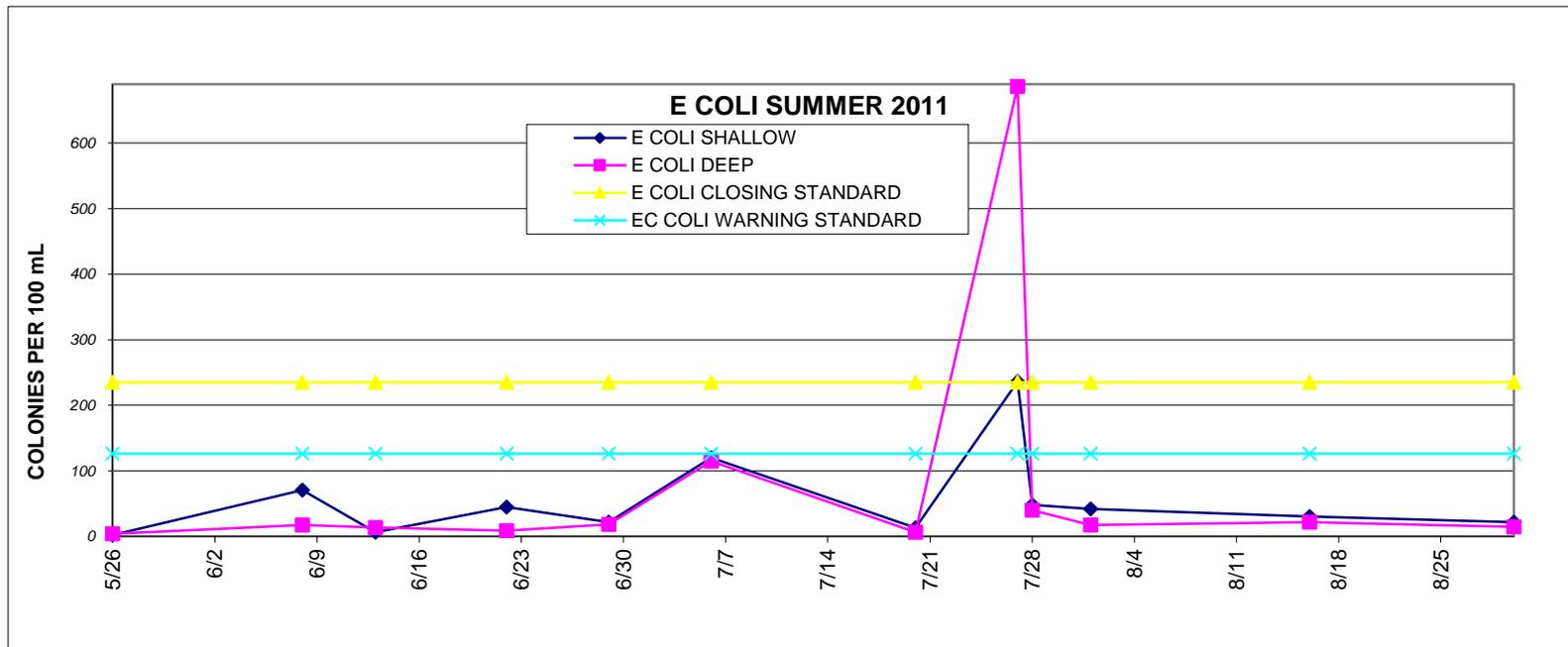
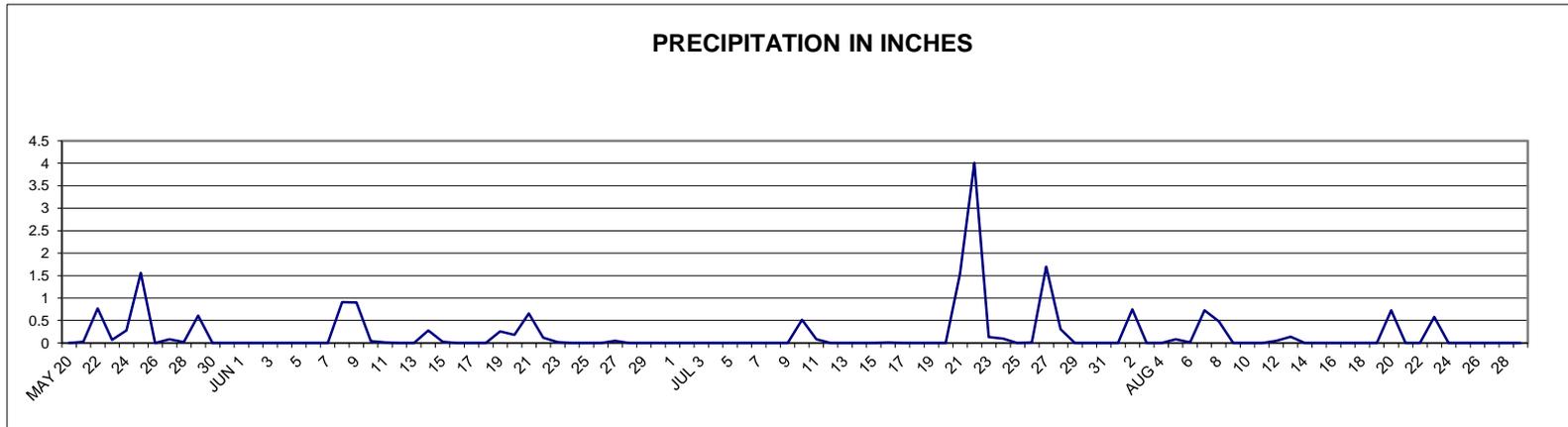
Factors Affecting Recovery After Elevated E.coli levels

- **Natural die-off**
- **Wind and wave action**
- **Ultraviolet light from the sun**
- **Precipitation**



Morrison Park Beach, Lily Lake

Precipitation and Bacteria Levels at LeVilla Vaupell 2, Griswald Lake



Sampling Protocol

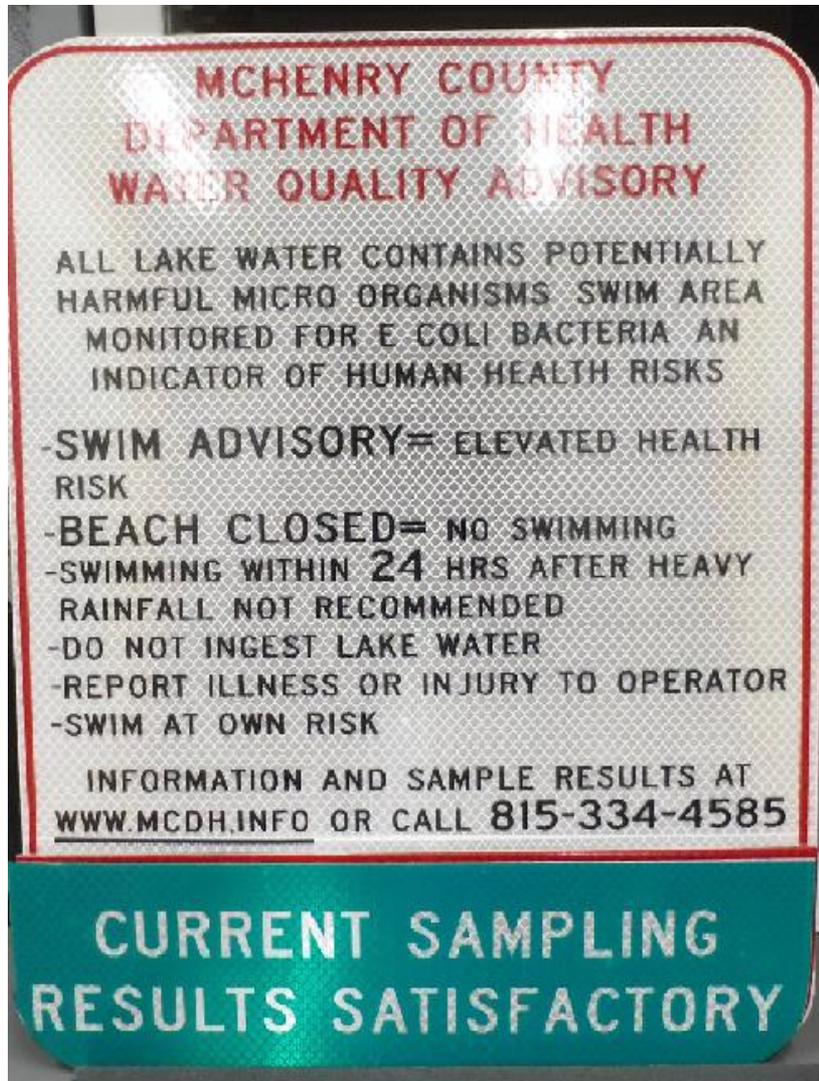
- Minimum every 2 weeks
- Sampling may occur more frequently before holidays, after heavy rain events which occur over a short duration.
- 2 Samples per beach (1 shallow and 1 deep)
- Colilert Quantitray Method
 - Results in 18 - 24 hours
 - Most probable number of E coli cfu/100 ml



Sampling Result Changes for 2015

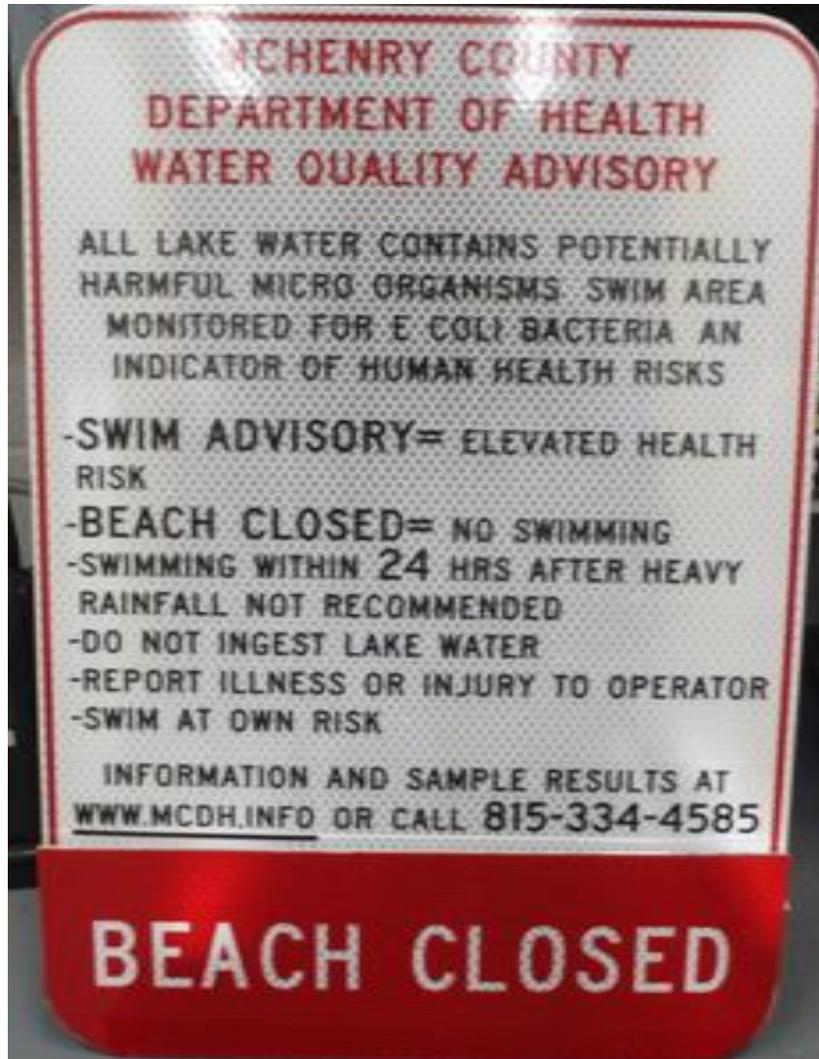
- MCDH will be implementing sampling result protocol consistent with IDPH Swimming Facility Code operational requirements
 - Eliminating Beach Advisory when both samples are above 126 but below 235
- Department will not be providing end of the year beach summary reports unless requested

Sampling Results “Beach Open”



- E. coli levels are below 235 colony forming units (cfu) per 100 milliliters of water in both shallow and deep samples.
 - Regular sampling schedule is followed
 - Press release issued for routine sampling events
 - Update IDPH webpage

Sampling Results “Beach Closed”



- E. coli levels exceed 235 colony forming units (cfu) per 100 milliliters of water in both shallow and deep samples* OR;
 - A known incident that may have contaminated the water.
- Daily sampling is initiated
 - Beaches are closed until 2 satisfactory samples are obtained
 - MCDH Dept. staff will post signs unless alternative arrangement exists with operator.
 - Press release issued for routine samples events that are on closed status.
 - Update IDPH webpage

* Established by the Illinois Swimming Facility Act

Sampling Results “Beach Advisory”



- **E.coli levels exceed 235 (cfu) per 100 milliliters of water in any one sample.**
 - **Beaches are on “Warning Advisory” until 2 satisfactory samples are collected**
 - **Daily sampling is initiated**
 - **Beach will be closed if one of the samples collected the next day remains above 235 (cfu)**
 - **MCDH Dept. staff will post signs unless alternative arrangement exists with operator.**
 - **Press release issued for routine sample events on advisory.**
 - **Update IDPH webpage**

Heavy Rain Advisory



- MCDH staff monitor predicted and actual 24 hr precipitation storm totals as reported by NOAA and McHenry Lock and Dam.
- General guide lines are used to issue a swim advisory for heavy rain events which occur over a short duration.
- MCDH Dept. staff will post signs unless alternative arrangement exists with operator.
- Press release issued for beaches that are on rain advisory.
- Update IDPH webpage

- Health Department
 - Affordable Care Act
 - A to Z Topic List for MCDH
 - Health Administration
 - Animal Control
 - Environmental Health**
 - Applications & Forms
 - Fee Schedules
 - Food Protection Program
 - Onsite Wastewater Treatment
 - Groundwater Protection/Contamination
 - Private Water Supply
 - Laboratory Services
 - Public Beaches**
 - Public Beaches - Frequently Asked Questions
 - Nuisance Control
 - Solid Waste Program
 - Public Documents
 - Environmental Advisory Committee
 - Environmental Health Ordinances
 - Board of Health
 - Health Statistics and Epidemiology
 - Nursing
 - Emergency Preparedness
 - School Nurse Website
 - Health Ordinances
 - McHenry County Cooperative Dental Clinic
 - Department Contact Info
 - FOIA Request
 - Health Facebook Feed

County Government » DEPARTMENTS A-J » Health Department » Environmental Health

Public Beaches

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There are currently 38 licensed public beaches on 13 lakes in McHenry County. Each public beach is licensed by the Illinois Department of Public Health and inspected by McHenry County Department of Health for compliance with the [Illinois Swimming Pool and Bathing Beach Code](#). Staff from McHenry County Department of Health collects and analyzes beach water samples for bacterial quality at least once every two weeks throughout the summer months. Elevated bacterial levels may result in closure of the beach until bacteria reach acceptable levels. Click [here](#) for more information on public beaches.



Beaches are closed from Labor Day until Memorial Day.

Click on the individual beach below to see current beach sample results.

Licensed Public Beaches in McHenry County

BEACHES OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC (RESTRICTIONS AND FEES MAY APPLY)	SUBDIVISION BEACHES (NOT OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC)
Butch Hagele, Woods Creek Lake	CCAPOA Beach #7, Crystal Lake
Dorothy Court Beach, Island Lake	CCAPOA Beach #13, Crystal Lake
East Park Beach, McCullom Lake	CCAPOA Beach #21, Crystal Lake
Indian Trails, Woods Creek Lake	Deep Springs Woods #1, Wonder Lake
Lake Park Beach, Crystal Lake	Deep Springs Woods #2, Wonder Lake
Morrison Park Beach, Lily Lake	Highland Shores, Wonder Lake
North Beach #1, Silver Lake	Indian Ridge #1 South, Wonder Lake
Peterson Park Beach, McCullom Lake	Indian Ridge #2 North, Wonder Lake
South Beach #2, Silver Lake	Killarney Acres West, Lake Killarney
Three Oaks Recreation Area, Crystal Lake	Lake Killarney East, Lake Killarney
Veterans Park Beach, Island Lake	Lake Street Beach, Crystal Lake
West Park Beach, Crystal Lake	Lehman Lake, Lehman's Lakeside RV Resort
Willows Beach, Willows Campground	LeVilla Vaupell #1, Griswold Lake
	LeVilla Vaupell #2, Griswold Lake
	LeVilla Vaupell #3, Wonder Lake

Wonder Lake - Wonder Center Beach



There is no monitoring information for Wonder Center Beach this year.

- Beach Detail
- Advisories
- Results
- Monitoring
- Surveys
- Photos

All historical sampling results are shown below.

[Results for the current year are available here.](#)

Sample Year	Sample Date	Sample Type	Result Value
2014			
Shallow	08/27/2014	Individual	107.1
Deep	08/27/2014	Individual	81.3
Shallow	08/12/2014 12:10 PM	Individual	75.9
Deep	08/12/2014 12:10 PM	Individual	146.7
Shallow	07/30/2014	Individual	1
Deep	07/30/2014	Individual	6.3
Shallow	07/18/2014	Individual	34.5
Deep	07/18/2014	Individual	19.9
Shallow	07/17/2014	Individual	209.8
Deep	07/17/2014	Individual	34.1
Shallow	07/16/2014	Individual	410.6 *
Deep	07/16/2014	Individual	261.3 *
Shallow	07/09/2014	Individual	128.7
Deep	07/09/2014	Individual	27.5
Shallow	07/02/2014	Individual	186
Deep	07/02/2014	Individual	172.3
Shallow	06/20/2014	Individual	122
Deep	06/20/2014	Individual	135
Shallow	06/19/2014	Individual	308 *
Deep	06/19/2014	Individual	201
Shallow	06/05/2014	Individual	20
Deep	06/05/2014	Individual	22
Shallow	05/21/2014	Individual	6
Deep	05/21/2014	Individual	3
2013			
Shallow	08/28/2013	Individual	76
Deep	08/28/2013	Individual	21
Shallow	08/14/2013	Individual	7
Deep	08/14/2013	Individual	5
Shallow	07/31/2013	Individual	201
Deep	07/31/2013	Individual	30
Shallow	07/17/2013	Individual	131

Wonder Lake - Wonder Center Beach



There is no monitoring information for Wonder Center Beach this year.

Beach Detail

Advisories

Results

Monitoring

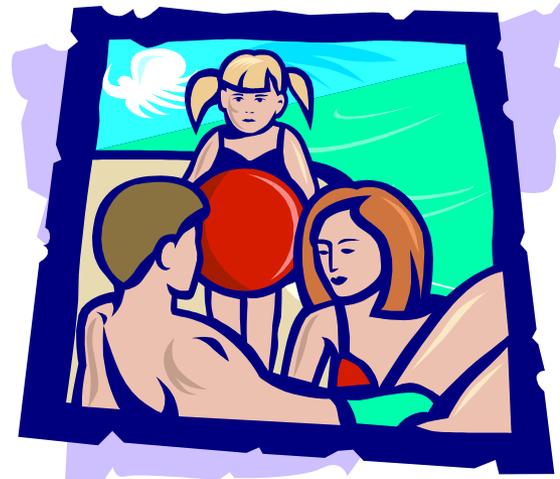
Surveys

Photos

Advisory Year	Start Date	Reopen Date	Days Closed	Type	Reason	Source
2014						
	7/18/2014	7/19/2014	1	Contamination Advisory	High bacteria levels	Unknown
	7/17/2014	7/18/2014	1	Closure	High bacteria levels	Unknown
	7/3/2014	7/10/2014	7	Contamination Advisory	High bacteria levels	Unknown
	6/21/2014	7/3/2014	12	Contamination Advisory	Other	Other reason
	6/20/2014	6/21/2014	1	Contamination Advisory	High bacteria levels	Unknown
	6/13/2014	6/20/2014	7	Contamination Advisory	Other	Unknown
2013						
	6/28/2013	7/2/2013	4	Closure	High bacteria levels	Unknown
2011						
	7/27/2011	8/2/2011	6	Contamination Advisory	High bacteria levels	Unknown
	7/1/2011	7/2/2011	1	Closure	High bacteria levels	Unknown
	6/30/2011	7/1/2011	1	Contamination Advisory	High bacteria levels	Unknown
2010						
	6/24/2010	6/29/2010	5	Closure	High bacteria levels	Unknown
	6/10/2010	6/11/2010	1	Contamination Advisory	High bacteria levels	Unknown

2020 Beach Season

- **Annual sampling begins on May 19, 2020**
- **Annual McHenry County Department of Health invoices sent to beach operators in April**
- **Sampling schedule as follows:**
 - May 19**
 - June 2, 16, 30**
 - July 14, 28**
 - August 11, 25**



McHenry County Department of Health Contact Information

- Contact Department by:
 - Jeff Levato
 - Email JDLevato@mchenrycountyil.gov
 - Phone: 815-334-4585
 - www.mcdh.info
 - www.facebook.com
 - www.twitter.com/mchenrycohealth
 - Fax: 815-334-4637
 - 24 hour on-call: 815-334-4510

Helpful IDPH Links and Phone #'s

- Beach Regulations, Drowning/Illness Report, license Renewals and Applications:
www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/swimmingfacilities.htm
- Beach Regulation Sign: www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/beachregs.htm
- IDPH Springfield Office: 217-782-5830 or after hours 1-800-782-7860

- Beach Guard
<http://app.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/ilbeaches/public/Default.aspx>