

Beach Advisories

During the bathing beach season, 58 stations are monitored on a weekly basis for enterococcus bacteria through the CCMP program.

The health departments of Monmouth County will be issuing advisories to notify the public when a beach's water quality testing has demonstrated bacteria results above the acceptable level of 104 enterococci. Until late summer of 2009, there was no notification provided until after a second test also showed unacceptable levels of enterococci.

Thus, if a beach is tested on Monday, we receive the initial results on Tuesday. It would be Wednesday before the beach would be closed due to two abnormal samples. To enhance our responsibility to the public's health, we will be posting a sign with the following wording at any beach which has an initial result above 104 enterococci. The second sample traditionally is within normal limits. If so, the sign would be removed at that time. However, should the second sample also be abnormal, the beach would be closed (as is current policy).

This change only affects the beach during the time period between receipt of first sample results and receipt of the second sample results. The beach would remain open.

ADVISORY

A water sample taken at _____ within the past 24 hours has bacteria results above the acceptable level of 104 enterococci.

The Monmouth County Regional Health Commission #1 recommends that you avoid contact with water when bacteria levels are higher than 104 enterococci.

More samples were taken today. These results will be available tomorrow. You may obtain test results for beaches in Monmouth County at:

<http://www.njbeaches.org>, or by calling the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission #1 at 732-493-9520.

