

Protecting and Advancing the Public's Health

W. Douglas Skelton, MD, District Health Director

1395 Eisenhower Drive (31406) Post Office Box 14257 Savannah, GA 31416-1257 www.gachd.org Phone: 912-356-2441 Fax: 912-356-2868

NEWS RELEASE August 10, 2011

Contact: Sally Silbermann **912.644.5217**

Health Department Issues Advisory for Tybee Strand Beach

CHATHAM COUNTY, GA – The Chatham County Health Department has placed Strand Beach at the pier on Tybee Island under advisory. The advisory area covers the area from 11th Street to 18th Street. Routine water quality tests from samples taken August 9 show the beach water in this area contains a high level of enterococci bacteria, which increase the risk of gastrointestinal illness in swimmers.

The Chatham County Health Department recommends you do not swim or wade in the water in this area. Fish and other seafood caught from this area should be thoroughly washed with fresh water and thoroughly cooked before eating.

The area will be retested and the advisory will be lifted when tests show the bacteria levels meet the Environmental Protection Agency's recommended standard.

###

Georgia Department of Community Health • Division of Public Health