

NEWS RELEASE
September 22, 2020

Media Contact: Ginger Heidel
912.644.5830

Beach Advisories Issued for St. Simons Island and Jekyll Island Beaches

GLYNN COUNTY, GA – The Glynn County Health Department has issued beach water advisories for 2 beaches on St. Simons Island and 1 beach on Jekyll Island. The affected areas are:

- Massengale Park Beach (Driftwood Drive to Cedar Street) on St. Simons Island,
- Fifth Street Crossover Beach (Cedar Street to 9th Street) on St. Simons Island, and
- Captain Wylly Road Crossover Beach (Brice Lane to beach pavilion) on Jekyll Island.

The Department of Natural Resources - Coastal Resources Division tests water samples on Glynn County beaches throughout the year. The tests screen for enterococcus (pronounced: en-ter-o-coc-cus) bacteria, which are found in humans and some wildlife. The testing program is not related to the capsized motor vehicle carrier in St. Simons Sound.

When a beach is under advisory, it means the level of bacteria found in the water is above the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) recommended standards. This does NOT mean the beach is closed. These beach water advisories alert the public of a possible risk of illness associated with water contact in the advisory areas. The Health Department recommends you do not swim or wade in the water in the areas under advisory. Fish and other seafood caught from these areas should be thoroughly washed with fresh water and thoroughly cooked before eating, as should fish or seafood caught from any waters.

The areas will be re-tested this week, and the advisories will be lifted when the bacteria levels meet the EPA's recommended standards. For more information about beach water testing, go to GaCHD.org and click on the Environmental Health tab at the top of the page.

###

