

Cuyahoga County Board of Health

Bathing Beach Regulations

Purpose

In 1997, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) initiated its BEACH Program in order to assist governments and public health officials in reducing the risk of illness associated with using recreational waters. The objectives of the Program were to improve beach programs through strengthening water quality standards for bathing beaches, to provide improved beach water quality information to the public, and to promote research to enhance the scientific basis for beach programs to better protect the public's health. Subsequently in 1999, the EPA introduced its *Action Plan for Beaches and Recreational Waters*; this written plan describes the EPA's plan to carry out the above objectives.

To further protect the public's health, the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act was signed into law in 2000. This Act requires the EPA to develop performance criteria for monitoring and assessing coastal recreation waters and to notify the public in a timely manner when water quality standards are exceeded.

In keeping consistent with BEACH Act requirements, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) has developed these new Bathing Beach Regulations in accordance with Section 3709.21 of the Ohio Revised Code, to replace its original regulations developed in 1993. These regulations require any person operating a public or community bathing beach to: obtain a permit to operate such beach, to monitor bathing waters through bacteriological water sampling, and to notify beach users of potential health risks associated with swimming in recreational waters.

It is the intent of the CCBH, under these regulations, to assist beach operators in monitoring their bathing waters and to provide guidance in public notification requirements of water quality data. It is further the intent of the CCBH to assist beach operators in determining the suitability of proposed and existing bathing beaches, and to provide direction to operators pertaining to factors affecting such suitability.

Section 1: Definitions

1.1: “Bathing” shall mean to become partially or totally immersed in a body of water related to swimming, wading, or diving, but excluding fishing, scuba diving, and surfboarding.

1.2: “Beach Closure” shall mean the closure of a bathing beach due to an imminent public health hazard, such as a sewage overflow, pollution spill, or similar pollution problem occurring at or proximate to a bathing beach.

1.3: “Board of Health” shall mean the board of health of a city or general health district or the authority having the duties of a board of health in any city as authorized under Section 3709.05 of the Revised Code.

1.4: “Community Bathing Beach” shall mean a public bathing beach which is not offered for use by the general public, but rather is for the exclusive use of members of an association, partnership, corporation, or other select group, whether or not a fee is charged.

1.5: “Director” shall mean the director of the board of health or his authorized representative.

1.6: “*Escherichia coli (E. coli)*” shall mean a specific bacterial species included in the fecal coliform bacteria group, the presence of which in surface waters has been correlated with gastrointestinal illness in swimmers, as specified in Rule 3745-1-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

1.7: “Fecal Coliform” shall mean the portion of the coliform group of bacteria which is present in the intestinal tract of warm-blooded animals, and is evidence of the presence of human or animal wastes, as specified in Rule 3745-1-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

1.8: “Geometric Mean” shall mean the Nth root of the product of N quantities.

1.9: “Health District” shall mean any city or general health district created pursuant to Section 3709.01 of the Revised Code.

1.10: “Lifeguard” shall mean an expert swimmer trained and employed to safeguard swimmers.

1.11: “Material Safety Data Sheet” shall mean information provided by the manufacturer of a material about its chemical and physical properties and the hazards associated with its use.

1.12: “Memorandum of Understanding” shall mean a written agreement between the CCBH and a beach operator for the purposes of water quality monitoring.

1.13: “Operator” shall mean any person, firm, company, corporation, or association that owns, controls, operates, conducts, or manages a bathing beach.

1.14: “Permit”, for the intent of these rules, shall mean a certificate issued by the board of health giving permission to operate a bathing beach.

1.15: “Person” shall mean that state, any political subdivision, special district, public or private corporation, individual, firm, partnership, association, or any other entity.

1.16: “Public Bathing Beach” shall mean an impounding reservoir, basin, lake, pond, creek, river, or other similar natural body of water which is intended to be used by the general public for bathing, whether or not a fee is charged.

1.17: “Recreation Season” shall mean the time frame from May first to October fifteenth, in accordance with Section 3745-1-07 (4) of the Ohio Administrative Code.

1.18: “Sampling Period” for purposes of water quality monitoring, shall mean the approximate time frame between Memorial Day and Labor Day, or as deemed necessary by the CCBH.

1.19 “Sanitary Survey” shall mean an environmental evaluation of a beach that will identify potential health hazards associated with the beach.

1.20: “Student Help” shall mean a student hired for an appointment lasting no longer than 6 months, but the appointment can be extended in 6 month increments.

1.21: “Surface Waters (of the state)” shall mean all streams, lakes, reservoirs, ponds, marshes, wetlands, or other waterways which are situated wholly or partially within the boundaries of the state, except those private waters which do not combine or effect a junction with natural surface or underground waters, as specified in Rule 3745-1-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

1.22: “Tiered Monitoring Plan” as recommended by the EPA, shall mean an evaluation and classification process designed to adequately address bathing beach water sampling frequencies based upon beach usage and potential risk of illness.

1.23: “Tier 1 Bathing Beach” shall mean a coastal or inland public bathing beach.

1.24: “Tier 2 Bathing Beach” shall mean a community bathing beach receiving moderate use as determined by the CCBH.

1.25: “Tier 3 Bathing Beach” shall mean a community bathing beach receiving

low use as determined by the CCBH.

1.26: “Water Quality Advisory” shall mean a notification to the public of an exceedance of applicable water quality standards based upon water quality monitoring tests.

1.27: “Watershed” shall mean an area of land that drains to a stream, river, lake, or other body of water.

Section 2: Permits

2.1: Every person operating a public or community bathing beach shall obtain an annual Permit to Operate from the CCBH to operate the bathing beach. Such permit shall serve as written authorization to operate the beach, as required under these rules.

2.2 The permit shall be valid from the beginning of the recreation season, May 1st, through April 30th of the following year.

2.3: Existing bathing beach permits shall be renewed annually by May 1st.

2.4: The Permit to Operate should be posted in a conspicuous location at the bathing beach facility.

Section 3: Fees

3.1: The CCBH may establish fees for permitting, inspecting, and water quality monitoring of bathing beaches in accordance with Section 3709.09 of the Revised Code. The fees for water quality monitoring will be a separate fee from the permit fee, and may be charged directly to the operator.

3.2: The water quality monitoring fee shall be the same “per sample” fee that the

CCBH is charged by the current laboratory performing the sample analysis for the CCBH. This fee shall change if the laboratory fee changes.

3.3: The permit fee shall be based upon the bathing beach classification, as determined by the *Cuyahoga County Board of Health BEACH Program Tiered Monitoring Plan*. The permit fees shall conform to the following classification scheme:

§ Tier 1 Bathing Beach (permit fee plus the cost of lab fees)

§ Tier 2 Bathing Beach (permit fee plus the cost of lab fees)

§ Tier 3 Bathing Beach (permit fee plus the cost of lab fees)

3.3: In the event that permit/monitoring fees are not renewed by May 1st for existing bathing beaches, water quality monitoring shall still be conducted by the CCBH, however, the CCBH may require the payment of a penalty, or late fee.

Section 4: Cost Methodology

4.1: The actual cost to the CCBH of maintaining the bathing beach program shall be calculated through utilization of the following data from the previous fiscal year:

- A. The list of all inspecting sanitarians working in the bathing beach program, including student help.
- B. The percentage of time worked in the bathing beach program by each inspecting sanitarian and student help calculated by dividing the amount determined under paragraph (4.1)(B)(1) of this rule by the amount determined under paragraph (4.1)(B)(2) of this rule.

1. Total hours work in the bathing beach program by each inspecting sanitarian and student help.
 2. The total hours for which each inspecting sanitarian and student help was paid in the last year.
- C. The total annual wages or salary paid to each inspecting sanitarian and student help.
- D. The total amount for fringe benefits paid on behalf of each inspecting sanitarian and student help.
- E. The total travel costs for each inspecting sanitarian and student help.
- F. The support costs for the program as determined by one of the following methods:
1. Use of actual support costs items which may include but are not limited to the salary and fringe benefits of the health commissioner, the director of the environmental health, supervisory staff, clerical staff, utilities, rent, supplies, equipment, liability insurance, and training. Actual support costs of the bathing beach program are calculated by multiplying the amount determined under paragraph (4.1)(F)(1)(a) of this rule by the amount determined under paragraph (4.1)(F)(2)(b) of this rule.
 - a. The portion of total departmental support costs allocated to the environmental health division.

b. The percentage of total time worked in the bathing beach program by all inspecting sanitarians and student help.

2. Use of indirect cost rate of twenty-five percent of the wages or salaries and fringe benefits of inspecting sanitarians and student help attributable to the bathing beach program. The wages or salaries and fringe benefits of inspecting sanitarians and student help attributable to the bathing beach program shall be determined by multiplying the amounts determined for each sanitarian and student help under paragraphs (4.1)(C) and (4.1)(D) of this rule by the percentage for that sanitarian or student help determined under paragraph (4.1)(B) of this rule and adding the products;

3. Application of a negotiated indirect cost rate and calculation method approved by an agency of the federal government for the CCBH to the bathing beach program; and

G. The laboratory costs for the bathing beach program.

4.2: The costs for the bathing beach program may also include but are not limited to the amounts of any known or anticipated increases in costs or expenses for such items as rent, utilities, equipment, and current personnel, as well as the costs for additional personnel identified by the CCBH after the performance of a personnel needs analysis by the director of health.

4.3: The total bathing beach program costs shall be calculated in the following manner:

- A. For each inspecting sanitarian and student help, multiply the amount of total annual wages or salary determined under paragraph (4.1)(C) of this rule by the percentage determined pursuant to paragraph (4.1)(B) of this rule. Sum the products;
- B. For each inspecting sanitarian and student help, multiply the fringe benefits determined under paragraph (4.1)(D) of this rule by the percentage determined pursuant to paragraph (4.1)(B) of this rule. Sum the products;
- C. For each inspecting sanitarian and student help, multiply the travel costs determined under paragraph (4.1)(E) of this rule by the percentage determined pursuant to paragraph (4.1)(B) of this rule. Sum the products. As an alternative, the actual travel cost for each inspecting sanitarian and student help attributable to the bathing beach program may be used. Sum the actual costs;
- D. Add the amounts determined under paragraphs (4.1)(F), (4.1)(G), and (4.2) of this rule to the totals calculated in paragraphs (4.3)(A), (4.3)(B), and (4.3)(C) of this rule. This total is the cost for the bathing beach program.

Section 5: Plan Approval

5.1: No person shall construct a new bathing beach, or substantially modify an existing bathing beach, until plans and specifications have been submitted to, and approved by, the CCBH.

5.2: Plans shall include the following:

§ A topographical map of the proposed, or existing, bathing beach.

§ A detailed description of the watershed and any possible sources of pollution.

§ The locations of roads, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, household and commercial sewage disposal systems, drinking water supplies, bath houses, toilet facilities, and any other pertinent information to the area.

§ The location of lifeguard chairs, swim and diving platforms, and any special features (slides, etc.).

§ Any man-made or natural potential hazards in the area of the bathing beach.

§ The results of any previous, but recent, water quality monitoring tests (may be on file with the CCBH or sewer agency).

§ Any other pertinent information which may impact the health and safety of bathers.

5.3: Within 30 days of receiving plans, the CCBH shall conduct a sanitary survey of the proposed or existing bathing beach. A written report shall be provided to the operator as to the suitability of the bathing beach. Requirements or recommendations shall be provided regarding factors which may potentially impact bather health and safety.

5.4: A fee shall be charged for plan approval.

Section 6: Sanitary Survey

6.1: The CCBH shall conduct a sanitary survey:

- As part of the plan review process for proposed bathing beaches and for

substantial modifications to existing bathing beaches.

- As part of a bathing beach inspection for existing bathing beaches.

6.2: The sanitary survey shall include any of the following items that have the potential to impact the health and safety of bathers:

- Potential sources of pollution:
 - Storm sewer drains and/or combined sewer drains (storm sewer and sanitary sewer)
 - Unsewered residential areas utilizing household sewage disposal systems
 - Wastewater treatment plants
 - Industrial outlets
 - Animal enclosures/runoff
 - Agriculture runoff
 - Potential erosion areas
- Man-made or natural hazards in the area
- Influences of wind, rain, and water currents
- Number and location of toilet facilities
- Location of drinking water sources
- Description of structures such as lifeguard chairs, swim platforms, diving towers, breakwalls, etc.

6.3: Information gathered during a sanitary survey shall be provided to the beach operator by the CCBH.

Section 7: Water Quality and Public Notification

7.1: Bathing beach operators shall arrange for beach water sample analysis with the CCBH to determine the bacteriological quality of the water; this arrangement shall occur through a Memorandum of Understanding between the beach operator and the CCBH.

7.2: The water sampling frequency shall be determined by the beach classification, as outlined in the *Cuyahoga County Board of Health BEACH Program Tiered Monitoring Plan*.

7.3: A bathing beach operator may request additional water quality monitoring to be conducted. Additional sampling may be conducted at the expense of the bathing beach operator.

7.4: For new public or community bathing beaches, if there is no previous history of water quality data, water sampling shall be conducted on a weekly basis during the recreation season under permit by the CCBH during the first year of operation.

7.5: Water samples shall be collected by the CCBH.

7.6: Water samples should be analyzed by an Ohio EPA approved laboratory to determine the bacterial concentration of the most current indicator organism, as determined by the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio EPA. Water samples shall be analyzed utilizing procedures set forth in the most recent edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater.

7.7: The evaluation of water sample results shall be based upon the “Bathing Waters” standards for recreational use as specified in Rule 3745-1-07 of the Ohio Administrative Code and by the *Ohio Department of Health Beach Monitoring Program Guidelines*.

7.8: As of the effective date of these rules, current water quality standards are for *E. coli*.

7.9: The water quality standard for *E. coli* requires that:

- The geometric mean based on not less than 5 samples collected within a 30-day period shall not exceed 126 *E. coli* colonies per 100 ml; and
- The *E. coli* bacterial concentration shall not exceed 235 *E. coli* colonies per 100 ml in more than 10% of the samples collected during any 30-day period.

7.10: In the event that water quality standards are changed or revised, and/or new indicator organisms are required to be analyzed for, the new standards will automatically be adopted by the CCBH.

7.11: The water at bathing beaches shall be free from oils, greases, or other substances which may cause a public health nuisance.

7.12: If algae or aquatic plants are determined to become hazardous to bathers by the CCBH, the CCBH may require control measures to be utilized. Control measures may consist of chemical application, which should be performed by an applicator licensed by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. All chemical applications shall be conducted according to the manufacturer's specifications. The CCBH recommends that Material Safety Data Sheets are maintained by the beach operator for any chemical that may be used.

7.13: Measures should be taken to discourage the presence of waterfowl at the beach, including, but not limited to, geese. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife, should be consulted for waterfowl problems.

7.14: The CCBH shall notify beach operators of all water sample analysis results. This notification shall occur via telephone, electronic mail, or any other

means deemed appropriate by the CCBH.

7.15: Bathing beach operators shall provide the public with water quality information.

7.16: Bathing beach operators shall post a prominent **Water Quality Information** sign at the beach at all times throughout the recreational season that serves to provide the public with water quality information. This sign shall contain wording similar to the following:

“WATER QUALITY INFORMATION

Bacterial levels may be elevated for 24 – 48 hours after heavy rain events due to surface runoff. Full body water contact is not recommended under those conditions.”

This sign shall be in a conspicuous location and sized to be easily seen. This sign shall be weather-proof, or displayed in a weather-proof manner, such as within encased message boards, outdoor literature boxes, etc.

7.17: Tier 2 and Tier 3 Bathing Beaches shall have a minimum of one **Water Quality Information** sign posted within the beach area. Tier 1 Bathing Beaches shall have this sign posted at all entrances to the beach area. If there is not a definitive entrance to a Tier I Bathing Beach, this sign shall be posted at several locations within the beach area so the sign can be easily seen.

7.18: If the results of water sample analysis, as determined by the CCBH, indicate that the current water quality standard has been exceeded, the CCBH will issue a **Water Quality Advisory** to the beach operator, or a responsible contact person for the beach.

7.19: During a **Water Quality Advisory**, beach operators shall post a prominent **Water Quality Advisory** sign that serves to inform the public that the current water quality standard has been exceeded. This sign shall contain wording

similar to the following:

“WATER QUALITY ADVISORY

Bacterial levels currently exceed State standards. Children, the elderly, and those in ill health are advised not to swim. Full body water contact may cause illness.”

This sign shall be in a conspicuous location and sized to be easily seen. This sign shall be weather-proof, or displayed in a weather-proof manner, such as within encased message boards, outdoor literature boxes, etc.

7.20: Tier 2 and Tier 3 Bathing Beaches shall have a minimum of one **Water Quality Advisory** sign posted within the beach area during a **Water Quality Advisory**. Tier 1 Bathing Beaches shall have this sign posted at all entrances to the beach area during a **Water Quality Advisory**. If there is not a definitive entrance to a Tier I Bathing Beach, this sign shall be posted at several locations within the beach area so the sign can be easily seen.

7.21: A **Water Quality Advisory** shall remain in effect until results of subsequent water sampling indicate that the current water quality standard is being met. The CCBH shall notify the beach operator, or a responsible contact person for the beach, via telephone or electronic email, at such time when a **Water Quality Advisory** can be removed.

7.22: In the event the current water quality standard is exceeded, the CCBH may re-sample a bathing beach as soon as possible, as outlined in the *Cuyahoga County Board of Health BEACH Program Tiered Monitoring Plan*. This re-sampling may not be conducted if the water quality exceedance can be reasonably determined by the CCBH to be a weather-related exceedance, such as in the case of heavy rainfall events or high waves. Re-sampling, if necessary, may be conducted at the expense of the operator.

7.23: A **Beach Closure** may be issued, or recommended, due to an imminent public health hazard, such as a sewage overflow, pollution spill, or similar pollution problem occurring at or proximate to a bathing beach. A **Beach Closure** may be determined by the CCBH, the Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, or any other pertinent authority, including a beach operator, in order to protect the health and safety of the public. A beach closure may be temporary, for an extended period of time, or permanent. **Beach Closure** signage may be required at a beach if so determined by any of the above parties.

Section 8: Safety

8.1: Tier 1 Bathing Beaches are required to provide lifeguards. Lifeguards are recommended at Tier 2 and Tier 3 Bathing Beaches.

8.2: Lifeguards should be present in the ratio of one lifeguard for every 300 lineal feet of beach.

8.3: Lifeguards shall be certified validly and currently by one of the following entities as having completed the specified training successfully:

- “American Red Cross” – “Lifeguard Training”;
- “YMCA” – “YMCA lifeguard”;
- “Boy Scouts of America” - “BSA, Lifeguard” (within the previous three years) or “Aquatic Instructor, BSA” (within the previous three years);
- “Ellis and Associates” – “National Pool and Waterpark Lifeguard Training”,
or
- Any other person, agency, or organization determined by the CCBH to be comparable to the training specified in the above courses.

8.4: Lifeguards shall possess current valid certification in infant, child, and adult

cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) including pocket mask, bag valve and 2-person CPR - from one of the following entities:

- “American Red Cross” – CPR for the Professional Rescuer”, or successor courses offered by the “American Red Cross”;
- “American Heart Association” – Health Care Provider (infant, child, and adult);
- National Safety Council Course; or
- Any other person, agency, or organization determined by the CCBH to be comparable to the training specified in the above courses.

8.5: Lifeguards shall possess current valid certification from one of the following entities as having completed one of the specified courses successfully:

- “American Red Cross” – “Community First Aid”, or successor course offered by the “American Red Cross”;
- Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Medical Services – “Emergency Medical Technician – Basic”; or
- Any other person, agency, or organization determined by the CCBH to be comparable to the training specified in the above courses.

8.6: Lifeguards should be certified in open waters or waterfront lifesaving, if applicable.

8.7: Lifeguards shall be capable swimmers and able to perform all lifeguarding tasks authorized by their certification.

8.8: Lifeguards shall be ready to enter the water at all times while on duty. Lifeguards shall be dressed in swimming attire and shall be readily identifiable by bathers and other lifeguards.

8.9: Lifeguards shall be equipped with a rescue tube and a CPR pocket mask. Lifeguards should have available a spine board with a head immobilizer where

the potential may exist for diving injuries.

8.10: The CCBH may require verification, or proof, of lifeguard certification from a bathing beach operator.

8.11: Bathing beach operators should maintain records of lifeguard certifications.

8.12: Tier 1 Bathing Beaches shall be provided with a first aid kit and a telephone with posted emergency numbers; a minimum of “911” must be posted. Tier 2 and Tier 3 Bathing Beaches should be provided with a first aid kit and a telephone with posted emergency numbers; a minimum of “911” must be posted. If a telephone cannot be provided for a Tier 2 or a Tier 3 Bathing Beach, a conspicuous sign shall be posted to indicate the location of the nearest working telephone.

8.13: Tier 1 Bathing Beaches shall be inspected daily, prior to opening, during the recreational season by the operator, a lifeguard, or any other pertinent beach authority to assure that there are no hazardous materials such as broken glass, “sharps”, or other waste on the beach area. These materials, if found, shall be cleaned up and properly discarded. Tier 2 and Tier 3 Bathing Beaches should be inspected on a weekly basis during the recreational season for the above.

8.14: Diving areas, drop offs, underwater obstructions, or any other water safety hazards should be identified utilizing marker lines with floats, or equivalent.

8.15: Swimming areas should be defined by ropes with floats, buoys, or equivalent, where feasible. Shallow swimming areas should be distinguished from deep swimming areas.

8.16: Diving boards/platforms, if provided, should conform to the *Recreational Diving Area Design Features* in Rule 3701-31-04 (G) and/or (H) of the Ohio Administrative Code. Diving boards/platforms shall have non-slip steps and be provided with handrailing as recommended by the manufacturer, where

applicable. Existing diving boards/platforms, if determined by the CCBH to pose a safety hazard, shall be repaired, replaced, or removed from the bathing beach as deemed appropriate by the CCBH.

8.17: Slides, if provided, should conform to the manufacturer's specifications for installation and usage. Existing slides, if determined by the CCBH to pose a safety hazard, shall be repaired, replaced, or removed from the bathing beach as deemed appropriate by the CCBH.

Section 9: Sanitation

9.1: Tier 1 Bathing Beaches shall provide toilet and handwashing facilities. Tier 2 and Tier 3 Bathing Beaches may provide toilet and handwashing facilities.

9.2: Toilet and handwashing facilities shall be provided with potable running water, soap, and paper towels or a hand-drying device.

9.3: If a bathhouse is provided, it shall be maintained in a sanitary condition. If lockers are provided, they should be placed on a solid flooring material at least 4 inches high, such as concrete, or on legs with the bottom of the locker at least 10 inches above the floor. Lockers shall be vented to aid in the elimination of moisture and odors.

9.4: If showers are provided, they shall be provided with potable water at a temperature not to exceed 110 degrees Fahrenheit, as per Section 607 of the Ohio Plumbing Code. If shower curtains are provided, they shall be kept in a sanitary condition, free from mold and mildew.

9.5: Toilet and handwashing facilities, bathhouse facilities, and shower facilities shall be provided with adequate lighting and ventilation.

9.6: Toilet and handwashing facilities, bathhouse facilities, and shower facilities

shall have floors made of a smooth, non-slip, and cleanable material. The floors should be well drained to prevent the accumulation of water. Carpet shall be prohibited as a flooring material. Walls shall be smooth, impervious, and free from cracks and open joints.

9.7: Covered waste receptacles shall be provided within, or in the immediate vicinity of, toilet and handwashing facilities. Covered waste receptacles should also be provided in areas of the beach where garbage may be generated, such as picnic areas.

Cuyahoga County Board of Health BEACH Program Tiered Monitoring Plan

		Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Definition		A coastal or inland public bathing beach.	A community bathing beach receiving moderate use.	A community bathing beach receiving low use.
When to Conduct Basic Sampling		<p>Sampling Period: Memorial Day through Labor Day.</p> <p>Sampling Frequency: Four samples per week, Monday through Thursday, will be collected during the sampling period.</p>	<p>Sampling Period: Memorial Day through Labor Day.</p> <p>Sampling Frequency: Two samples a month will be collected during the sampling period.</p>	<p>Sampling Period: Memorial Day through Labor Day.</p> <p>Sampling Frequency: One sample per month will be collected during the sampling period.</p>
When to Conduct Additional Sampling	After a water quality standard is exceeded	When bacterial concentrations exceed a water quality standard, a public notification/water quality advisory will be issued and/or re-sampling may be conducted. If sample results are determined to be accurate, a public notification/ water quality advisory will be issued. Re-sampling will only be conducted when there is reason to doubt the accuracy of the sample result based upon predefined quality assurance measures, or when sample results have historically met water quality standards and no known pollution sources are present. Re-sampling, if necessary, will be conducted as soon as possible if the first sample exceeds water quality standards.		

	After a sewage spill or pollution event	Additional sampling will be conducted immediately following a sewage spill or a significant pollution event where the potential exists that indicator organism levels may be expected to exceed water quality standards.		
	Reopening after advisory or closure	Additional sampling may be conducted to determine whether a public notification/water quality advisory can be discontinued. Since a water quality advisory will not be withdrawn without sample results meeting water quality standards, accelerated sampling may be conducted in order for the water quality advisory to be removed sooner.		
	After a heavy rainfall event	Additional sampling may be conducted after heavy rainfall events where historical sample data indicate a significant increase in indicator organism concentrations with rainfall, and/or pending the availability of funding.		
Where to Collect Samples	Middle of bathing area (s) that is/are the most highly used. Near known and potential pollution sources.	Middle of bathing area. Near known and potential pollution sources.	Middle of bathing area. Near known and potential pollution sources.	
What Depth to Sample	Water samples will be collected at knee to waist deep water from approximately 12 inches below the water's surface.			

* Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 bathing beaches may be sampled more or less frequently pending the availability of funding and staffing.