

2007 Bacteria Data - Tributaries Enterococci Data

A number of groups of bacteria species are used to indicate the presence of human sewage and associated pathogens, or disease causing organisms. In Rhode Island two groups monitored in order to protect human health - fecal coliforms and enterococci. The USEPA has identified enterococci as better indicators of increased risks of contracting gastrointestinal illnesses from water contact than fecal coliforms. Therefore the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIHealth) adopted single-value enterococci standards for licensed swimming beaches in 2004, and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) adopted enterococci for contact recreation standards on all waters (fresh and salt) shortly after. In addition, as required under the National Shellfish Sanitation Program for shellfish waters and as an indicator of overall water quality, RIDEM continues to assess fecal coliform levels, particularly in marine waters or waters that discharge directly to marine waters (fecal coliform data is available for marine waters and shellfish area tributaries in the "Tidal Rivers Bacteria" file).

While URIWW's Analytical Laboratories are State certified, Watershed Watch data is intended for screening purposes only. However our data are very valuable for targeting areas of concerns and for tracking potential sources of bacterial contamination. Samples may have been collected over a period of days for each collection period, so may reflect dry versus wet weather or rain event values. Please contact Watershed Watch for specific sample dates. Any result above the state standard is considered unsafe, and swimmers should refrain from swimming until results return to acceptable levels, or at least for several days after heavy rain.

RI Department of Health Enterococci Standards:
Fresh Waters - Not to exceed 61 enterococci per 100 mL.

Watershed code	MONITORING LOCATION	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	GEOMEAN
	Lake - Trib name/location	---	Most Probable Number of Enterococci per 100 mL					---
WD	Asseconk Swamp	2	-	14.4	-	-	144.5	16.1
WD	Barber - Mud Brook	3.1	8.7	54.4	-	36.8	-	15.2
A	Belleville - RR Xing	17.8	-	1299.7	98.5	355.4	14.8	131.6
A	Belleville - Sluiceway	3.1	-	36.8	15.6	8.2	5.1	12.1
PE	Carr Inlet (NK)	1	-	3	-	-	-	1.7
WO	Georgiaville - Capron Pond	3.1	-	115.3	-	-	16	17.9
WO	Georgiaville - Harris	19.2	-	34.1	-	-	920.8	84.5
WD	Pasquisett Tributary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A	Secret - Oak Hill Creek East	5.3	-	816.4	-	-	18.7	43.3
A	Secret - Oak Hill Creek West	15.8	-	686.7	-	-	17.1	57.0
A	Secret - Shore Drive	8.6	-	387.3	-	-	7.5	29.2
WD	Shunock River @ Babcock	22.8	-	72.3	-	-	578	98.4
WD	Shunock River @ Hewitt	8.4	-	6.3	-	-	24.8	10.9
WO	Slack's Tributary A	1	-	9.7	-	-	6.1	3.9
WO	Slack's Tributary B	2	-	8.6	-	-	9.6	5.5
WO	Slack's Tributary C	5.2	-	24.7	-	-	9.4	10.6
WO	Slack's Tributary D	<1	-	4.1	-	-	9.6	1.6
B	S&S - Balcom Brook	no sample	-	> 200.5 / 47.1	1732.9	-	-	253.9
B	S&S - Keech Brook	no sample	-	> 200.5 / 8.6	5	-	-	20.5
B	S&S - O'Donnel Brook	no sample	-	115.3 / 53.8	65.2	-	-	74.0
				First value with recent rain / second value after several drier days				
TA	Stafford Inlet - Downstream	27.8	-	613.1	-	-	>24196	130.6
TA	Stafford - NE Cove	1	-	< 1	-	-	54.2	3.7
WD	Watchaug - Perry Healy	19.2	-	14.8	-	-	-	16.9

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	Lake - Trib name/location	----	Most Probable Number of Enterococci per 100 mL					----
WD	Waterman - Rte 44	<1	-	141.4	-	-	<2	6.3
WO	Waterman - Saw Mill Rd.	1	-	316.9	-	-	>401	>50.3
WO	Waterman - Golf Course	4.1	-	1046.2	-	-	>401	>119.8
WO	Waterman - Aldrich	2	-	27.2	-	-	330.4	26.2
WD	White Brook Pond Inlet	15	-	-	35	-	401	22.9
WD	White Brook Pond Outet	28.8	-	-	82	-	83.1	48.6
WD	White Horn Brook @ Bike Trail	-	-	-	38.5	156.8	-	77.7
WD	White Horn Brook @ Ministerial Rd.	8.7	-	19.7	244.5	1297.6	-	85.9

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	WPWA TRIBUTARIES	----	Most Probable Number of Enterococci per 100 mL					----
WD	Ashaway River @ Rte 216	40.6	26.6	13.4	93.4	332.8	64	55.3
WD	Ashaway River @ Wellstown Rd.	23.8	38.6	82	980.4	2827.2	>200.5	>183.6
WD	Chipuxet River @ Rte 138	<1	10.9	23.3	59.1	21.1	4.1	10.3
WD	Glen Rock Brook	1	7.2	12.1	98.8	345	244.4	30.0
WD	Parmentier Brook @ Clark Falls Rd.	42.9	12.1	Dry	98.3	> 4839.2	Dry	> 125.3
WD	Parmentier Brook @ Exit 93	17.3	42.8	35	1046.2	> 4839.2	>2419.6	>261.2
WD	Pawcatuck R @ Biscuit City Rd	3.1	18.1	76.3	52.9	55.4	34.1	27.5
WD	Pawcatuck R @ Burdickville Rd	4.2	19.5	18.3	119.8	462	189	50.0
WD	Pawcatuck R @ Chase Hill Rd.	6.4	17.8	3.1	-	-	-	7.1
WD	Pawcatuck R below Kenyon Ind.	14.2	33.6	25.9	-	412.8	57.6	49.4
WD	Pawcatuck River @ Rte 91	3.1	38.8	108.1	162.4	111.9	15.8	39.4
WD	Pawcatuck R below Bradford (DA)	5.2	44.8	7.5	-	-	-	12.0
WD	Queen River @ Mail Rd	3.1	20.7	214.2	172.3	323.2	97.4	64.9
WD	Queen River @ Rte 102	2	108.1	51.2	113.7	2239.8	651	110.6
WD	Tomaquag Brk @ Chase Hill Rd.	7.5	42	68.3	579.4	4839.2	1413.6	209.8
WD	Tomaquag Brk @ Woodville Rd.	<1	6.3	Dry	235.9	2827.2	Dry	44.1
WD	Usquepaugh River @ Rte 2	<1	19.2	75.2	86.7	32.7	24	21.1

A factsheet describing how bacteria are monitored, what bacterial indicators are, where bacteria come from and how we can all help to reduce bacterial input into our local water resources is available at <http://www.uri.edu/ce/wq/ww/resources/Bacteria.pdf>

See the Rhode Island Department of Health beach monitoring website (<http://www.ribeaches.org/>) for additional information about beach monitoring and state standards.

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management website has information on State efforts to restore waters impaired by bacteria and other pollutants (<http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/water/quality/index.htm>).