

2009 Bacteria Data - Bay, Harbor and Marine Sites : Fecal coliform and enterococci

A number of groups of bacteria species are used to indicate the presence of human sewage and associated pathogens, or disease causing organisms in water. Fecal coliform are one group, and its monitoring is required under the National Shellfish Sanitation Program for shellfish waters and as an indicator of overall water quality. Thus RIDEM assesses fecal coliform levels in marine waters or waters that discharge directly to marine waters.

While URIWW's Analytical Laboratories are certified by the State of Rhode Island, Watershed Watch data is intended for screening purposes only. 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 Environmental Management and Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection fecal coliform standards:
Shellfish Waters - Geometric mean not to exceed 14 fecal coliform per 100 mL.

Fecal Coliform Data (arranged approximately west to east along the coast)

Watershed code	Clean Up Stonington Harbor Sites	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	GEOMEAN
Number of Fecal coliform colony forming units per 100 mL								
LI	CUSH - Mason's Island Ram Pt	1	1	1	4	4	-	2
LI	CUSH - Mystic River Park	15	29	11	26	12	10	17
LI	CUSH - Pequotsepos Cove	17	95	85	240	16	5	24
LI	CUSH - Murphy's Point	13	14	9	21	7	1	12
LI	CUSH - Lambert Cove	4	8	11	-	4	1	6
LI	CUSH - Sandy Point (Southwest)	2	29	2	1	1	< 1	2
LI	CUSH - Dodson's Boatyard	101	< 1	4	2	10	< 1	2
LI	CUSH - Stonington Harbor	-	5	6	2	4	< 1	2
LI	CUSH - Wequetequock Cove	9	18	11	19	6	< 1	5
LI	CUSH - King Cove Marina	116	110	62	85	136	25	98

Little Narragansett Bay and Napatree Point

Watershed code	MONITORING LOCATION	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	GEOMEAN
Number of Fecal coliform colony forming units per 100 mL								
LN	STB - Watch Hill Harbor	12	8	44	10	1	6	16
LN	Napatree Point - Bayside	16	193	131	1440	-	-	74
LN	STB - Sandy Pt (east)	10	29	3	38	< 1	1	3
LN	STB - South of Barn Island Ramp	2	1	12	5	< 1	2	1
BI	Napatree Point - Oceanside	< 1	< 1	1	< 1	-	-	< 1

Watershed code	Save Bristol Harbor Sites	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	GEOMEAN
Number of Fecal coliform colony forming units per 100 mL								
NA	SBH #1 - Elks Club	5	< 1	< 1	6	2	2	1
NA	SBH #2 - Bristol Harbor Inn	< 1	< 1	< 1	1	5	8	< 1
NA	SBH #3 - Silver Creek	118	340	800	920	500	8	222
NA	SBH #4 - Windmill Point	3	< 1	3	76	< 1	< 1	1
NA	SBH #5 - Mill Pond	1	15	5	11	9	2	5
NA	SBH #6 - Sanroma	1	10	< 1	5	3	< 1	1
NA	SBH #7 - Bristol Yacht Club	< 1	1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1
NA	SBH #8 - Brito Dock	< 1	1	< 1	18	2	< 1	< 1

2009 Bacteria Data - Bay, Harbor and Marine Sites : Fecal coliform and enterococci

Enterococci Data (arranged approximately west to east along the coast)

Watershed code	Clean Up Stonington Harbor Sites	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	GEOMEAN
		----	Most Probable Number of Enterococci per 100 mL					----
LI	CUSH - Mason's Island Ram Pt	<10	<10	< 10	< 10	< 10	-	<10
LI	CUSH - Mystic River Park	10	10	31	< 10	10	31	<10
LI	CUSH - Pequotsepos Cove	10	87	53	624	30	10	35.9
LI	CUSH - Murphy's Point	<10	20	10	42	< 10	20	<10
LI	CUSH - Lambert Cove	<10	<10	20	-	< 10	<10	<10
LI	CUSH - Sandy Point (Southwest)	<10	<10	< 10	< 10	< 10	<10	<10
LI	CUSH - Dodson's Boatyard	<10	<10	31	< 10	< 10	<10	<10
LI	CUSH - Stonington Harbor	-	<10	< 10	10	150	<10	<10
LI	CUSH - Wequetequock Cove	10	<10	20	64	< 10	<10	<10
LI	CUSH - King Cove Marina	20	10	20	254	74	10	31.7

Little Narragansett Bay and Napatree Point

Watershed code	MONITORING LOCATION	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	GEOMEAN
		----	Most Probable Number of Enterococci per 100 mL					----
LN	STB - Watch Hill Harbor	<10	20	<10	<10	<10	10	<10
LN	Napatree Point - Bayside	<10	31	20	504	-	-	23.6
LN	STB - Sandy Pt (east)	<10	<10	<10	10	< 10	< 10	<10
LN	STB - South of Barn Island Ramp	<10	<10	<10	10	< 10	< 10	<10
BI	Napatree Point - Oceanside	<10	<10	<10	< 10	-	-	<10

Watershed code	Save Bristol Harbor Sites	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	GEOMEAN
		----	Most Probable Number of Enterococci per 100 mL					----
NA	SBH #1 - Elks Club	<10	<10	< 10	< 10	< 10	< 10	< 10
NA	SBH #2 - Bristol Harbor Inn	<10	<10	< 10	20	87	< 10	< 10
NA	SBH #3 - Silver Creek	87	782	406	1652	985	241	470.4
NA	SBH #4 - Windmill Point	<10	<10	< 10	< 10	< 10	< 10	< 10
NA	SBH #5 - Mill Pond	20	<10	< 10	42	10	42	< 10
NA	SBH #6 - Sanroma	<10	31	10	111	< 10	< 10	<10
NA	SBH #7 - Bristol Yacht Club	<10	<10	< 10	10	10	87	<10
NA	SBH #8 - Brito Dock	<10	<10	< 10	10	< 10	< 10	<10

RI Department of Environmental Management and Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection enterococci standards:

Geometric mean less than 35 enterococci per 100 mL

RI Department of Health standards for recreational contact (i.e. swimming):

Marine waters single sample values not to exceed: 104 enterococci per 100 mL.

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