

2016 Bacteria Data - Tributaries Enterococci Data

Two groups of bacteria are monitored to indicate the presence of human sewage and associated pathogens, or disease causing organisms - fecal coliforms and enterococci. The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIHealth) uses a single-value enterococci standard for licensed swimming beaches. The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) uses a geometric mean approach for contact recreation standards on all other waters (fresh and salt). In addition, as required by the National Shellfish Sanitation Program for shellfish waters and their tributaries and as an indicator of overall water quality, RIDEM assesses fecal coliform levels. (See "Tidal Rivers Bacteria" file for fecal data as available.)

While URIWW's Analytical Laboratories are State certified, URIWW data are intended for screening purposes only. Samples from various sites 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 URIWW for specific sample dates. Our data are very valuable for targeting areas of concerns and for tracking potential sources of bacterial contamination. Results above the state standard could be unsafe, and you 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:

Single Sample Not to exceed 60 enterococci per 100 mL.

RI Department of Environmental Management Enterococci Standards:

Non-designated Bathing Beach (Fresh) Waters Geometric Mean Density - Not to exceed 54 enterococci per 100 mL.

Designated Bathing Beach (Fresh) Waters Geometric Mean Density - Not to exceed 33 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	Barber - Mud Brook	6	71	130	650	14.6	<10	28
CE	Briggs Marsh - Dunderly Brk Cove	-	-	NA	-	-	-	-
WO	Geoville Pond @ Capron Pond	-	-	116.6	-	45	84	76
WO	Geoville Pond @ Harris Brook	-	-	>4839	-	7.4	51	>122
A	Secret - Oak Hill East	94.2	-	517.2	98.8	-	32.7	112
A	Secret - Shore Dr.	94.2	-	235.9	3	-	27.8	37
WO	Slack's Trib - B	-	1	-	-	1	9208	21
WO	Slack's Trib - C	-	10.9	-	-	1	4884	38
B	Smith & Sayles @ Balcom Brook	-	4.1	1733	-	547.5	-	157
B	Smith & Sayles @ Keech Brook	-	7.4	80	-	-	-	24
B	Smith & Sayles @ O'Donnel Brook	-	Dry	-	-	-	-	-
TA	Stafford Pond - NE Cove	-	2	9.9	<1	-	-	1
WD	Watchaug Trib - Perry Healy	33.2	-	26	-	56.2	537	72
WO	Waterman Trib @ Rte 44	46.4	-	85	-	-	1835	194
WO	Waterman Trib @ Saw Mill	13.4	-	626	-	-	24196	588



Smith & Sayles Reservoir

Photo from
<http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/water/quality/surfwq/pdfs/lakes012.pdf>