

Tiverton 2017 Bacteria Test Results

In Rhode Island 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.

While URIWW's analytical laboratories are certified by the State, URIWW 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. 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 fecal coliform standards:

Shellfish Waters - Not to exceed 14 fecal coliform per 100 mL (Exceedence indicated by **YELLOW** text).

Salt Waters Primary Contact/Swimming Standard - Not to exceed a geometric mean value of 50 fecal coliform per 100 mL.
(Swimming standard exceedence indicated by **RED** text).

Tiverton Coastal Sites Fecal Coliform Data

Watershed code	Monitoring Location	18-May	15-Jun	13-Jul	10-Aug	7-Sep	5-Oct	GEOMEAN
		----- Most Probable Number of Fecal coliform per 100 mL -----						
SK	Tiverton Basin boat launch	<10	28	478	<10	<10	-	<10
SK	Industrial Way trib to Sin and Flesh	44.8	86	-	277	906	-	176
SK	Quaket Creek - Below pond	14.8	34	-	-	Dry	-	22
SK	Tributary Borden from south	204.6	81	276	-	98	-	145
SK	Tributary Borden from east	15.8	131	-	-	-	-	46

The Tiverton Harbor Commission initiated monitoring of the embayments (protected estuary or lagoon along a coastline) along the Sakonnet River, a tidal strait that separates Aquidnick Island from the mainland of eastern Rhode Island. These sites represent outstanding local resources known for their natural beauty, habitat for shell and other fish, birds and coastal fringing marshes. Protection of these areas is critical for current and future generations.

RIDEM Primary Contact Recreational/Swimming Geometric Mean Density (Geomean):

Not to exceed 35 enterococci per 100 mL.

RIHealth standards at licenced beaches: Not to exceed 60 enterococci per 100 mL

Tiverton Coastal Sites Enterococci Data

Watershed code	Monitoring Location	18-May	15-Jun	13-Jul	10-Aug	7-Sep	5-Oct	GEOMEAN
		----- Most Probable Number of Enterococci per 100 mL -----						
SK	Tiverton Basin boat launch	<10	<10	453	20	<10	-	<10
SK	Industrial Way trib to Sin and Flesh	228	663	-	172	1296	-	428
SK	Quaket Creek - Below pond	203	4	-	-	DRY	-	28
SK	Tributary Borden from south	23.1	61	646	-	583	-	152
SK	Tributary Borden from east	27.2	50	-	-	-	-	37



The Gut - Sin & Flesh Brook - South end of Highland Road, Photo from Pinterest