Fecal coliform and enterococci bacteria are monitored to indicate the presense of human sewage and associated pathogens, or disease causing organisms. The RI Department of Health (RIHealth) uses a single-value enterococci standard for licensed swimming beaches. The RI 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. (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, 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 standards for recreational contact (i.e.swimming):

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.

Watershe d code	MONITORING LOCATION	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	GEOMEAN		
		Most Probable Number of Enterococci per 100 mL								
Α	Annaquatket - Belleville @ RR Xing	-	357	2495	-	1373	1102	1077		
WD	Ashaway River @ Rte 216	-	-	126	139	-	740	235		
WD	Chipuxet @ Rte 138	-	27	-	346	-	57	81		
WD	Fisherville Trib - Hopkins	-	8	29	305	29	<1	15		
WD	Fisherville Brook - Henry Brown Rd	-	172	49	1010	117	3	79		
Н	HW #4 - Davis Memorial	-	75	157	44	40	-	67		
Н	HW #5 - Sandhill Brook (Saw Mill Inlet)	-	2595	132	96	253	768	364		
LN	Mastuxet Brook	-	2064	475	857	504	1034	848		
TH	Moosup River - Barb Hill Rd	-	-	147	142	168	89	133		
WD	P'tuck @ Biscuit City Rd	-	49	92	164	228	152	121		
WD	Pawcatuck River @ Rte 91	-	-	129	651	980	73	278		
PA	Pawtuxet River upstream of Rhodes	-	45.2	53	64	54	77	58		
S	Saugatucket River - Saugatucket Rd	-	210	259	808	249	80	244		
WD	Shickasheen @ Rte 2	-	154	-	No flow	-	-			
WD	Shick. @ Miskiania Road	-	80	134	913	-	-	214		
WD	Shick. @ Barber Pond outlet	-	10	12	12	-	-	11		
WD	Shick. @ Rte 138	-	187	354	192	-	-	233		
WD	Shick. @ Liberty Lane	-	104	315	93	-	-	145		



2023 Bacteria Data - Rivers and Streams Enterococci Data

Watershe d code	MONITORING LOCATION	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	GEOMEAN
WD	Shunock River @ Hewitt	-	-	73	149	162	108	117
WD	Shunock River @ Rte 49 (Rte 95)	-	-	87	225	-	2452	363
WD	TU - Falls River C - Austin Farms Rd	-	-	149	307	218	99	177
WD	TU - Flat River @ Midway RR	-	-	61	222	142	28	85
WD	TU - Wood River @ Rte 165	-	-	89	195	202	102	138
WD	Wood River @ Switch Rd	-	45	197	111	87	24	73
WO	Woonas. R @ Whipple Field	-	86	252	1076	2011	40	285
WO	Woonas. R @ Greystone Pond	-	258	126	78	172	34	108
WO	Woonas. R @ Donigian	-	524	418	185	302	95	259
WO	Woonas. R @ Waterplace Park	-	-	1201	359	275	148	364

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

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RI Department of Environmental Management Enterococci Standards:

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