

2026 Bacteria Data - Bristol Harbor and Mount Hope Bay and Tributaries: Fecal coliform enterococci

In Rhode Island (RI) two groups of bacteria are monitored to indicate the presense of human sewage and associated pathogens, or disease causing organisms - fecal coliforms and enterococci. 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.

While URIWW's analytical laboratories are certified by the State, URIWW data is 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).

Save Bristol Harbor and Bristol County Water Authority Sites Fecal Coliform Data

Watershed code	Monitoring Location	7-May	4-Jun	9-Jul	6-Aug	9/	1-Oct	GEOMEAN
Most Probable Number of Fecal coliform / 100 ml								
NA	BH - Elks Club	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Bristol Harbor Inn	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Silver Creek	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Silver Bridge	31	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Silver West	169	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Bristol Golf Course A	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Bristol Golf Course B	166	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Silver East	52	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Windmill Pt	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Mill Pond	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Sanroma	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Bristol Yacht Club	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
MH	BCWA - Upper Kickemuit Impoundment	31	-	-	-	-	-	-
MH	BCWA - Lower Kickemuit Reservoir	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
MH	BH - Kickemuit	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
MH	BH - Annawamscutt Dr	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

[Image from https://dockwa.com/explore/destination/55cwr5-town-of-bristol-marina-and-maritime-center?form=transient](https://dockwa.com/explore/destination/55cwr5-town-of-bristol-marina-and-maritime-center?form=transient)



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

Save Bristol Harbor and Bristol County Water Authority Sites Enterococci Data

Watershed code	Save Bristol Harbor Sites	7-May	4-Jun	9-Jul	6-Aug	9/	1-Oct	GEOMEAN
Most Probable Number of Enterococci / 100 ml								
NA	BH - Elks Club	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Bristol Harbor Inn	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Silver Creek	2282	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Silver Bridge	6488	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Silver West	3076	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Bristol Golf Course A	259	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Bristol Golf Course B	1095	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Silver East	3654	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Windmill Pt	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Mill Pond	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Sanroma	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	BH - Bristol Yacht Club	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
MH	BCWA - Upper Kickemuit Impoundment	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
MH	BCWA - Lower Kickemuit Reservoir	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
MH	BH - Kickemuit	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
MH	BH - Annawamscutt Dr	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



Bristol Harbor (Image from https://marinas.com/view/harbor/n5t65_Bristol_Harbor_Bristol_RI_United_States)