

2026 Bacteria Data - Narragansett Bay Sites Enterococci Data

Fecal coliforms and enterococci bacteria are monitored to indicate the presence of human sewage and associated pathogens, or disease causing organisms. 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 for contact recreation standards on all other waters. 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 are available for marine waters and shellfish area tributaries in the "Tidal Fecal" 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 Enterococci Standards:

Single Sample Not to exceed: 60 enterococci per 100 mL Fresh Waters & Marine Waters.

RI Department of Environmental Management Enterococci Standards:

Marine (salt water) Geometric Mean Density: 35 enterococci per 100 mL.

Designated Bathing Beach (Fresh) Waters Geometric Mean Density - Not to exceed 33 enterococci per 100 mL.

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

Watershed code	MONITORING LOCATION	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	GEOMEAN
<b>Arranged up/downstream and west to east</b>		<b>---- Most Probable Number of Enterococci per 100 mL ----</b>						
NA	STB - Providence River off Save The Bay HQ	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	STB - Off Rocky Point	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	STB - Buckeye Brook Outflow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GB	STB - Upper Warwick Cove	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GB	STB - Apponaug Cove	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GB	GrBay #6 - Ponaug Marina	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
GB	GrBay #13 - EG Town Dock	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Wickford Harbor - Fishing Cove	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Wickford Harbor - Main St Dock	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Wickford Cove West of Loop Dr	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Wickford Cove East of Loop Dr	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Jamestown - Great (Zeek's) Creek	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Jamestown - Fox Hill Marsh	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 01 - Gilbert Stuart	42	-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 02 - Upper Pond	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 03 - Lower Pond A	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 04 - Lower Pond B	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 13 - Near Lakeside Rd.	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 05 b - Upstream Lacey Bridge	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 06 - Mettatuxet Beach	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 07 - End of Narrows	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 11 - Mettatuxet Brook		-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 08 - Middlebridge	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 12 - Mumford Brook	1439	-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 24 - Starr Drive	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-
PE	NR 10 - Sprague Bridge	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-