

2026 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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WD	Boone 1/Roaring Brook	21.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
WD	Boone 2/East Shore	522.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
WO	Geo @ Capron Pond	10.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
WO	Geo @ Harris Brook	19.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
WO	Geoville Trib @ Below Harris	24	-	-	-	-	-	-
PA	Sand Pond Beach	4.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
B	S&S @ Balcom	341	-	-	-	-	-	-
B	S&S @ Cleo (pipe 1)	<10	-	-	-	-	-	-
B	S&S @ Cleo (pipe 2)	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
B	S&S @ Lucy Brook	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
MA	Snow's Pond - Cranberry Cove	NA	-	-	-	-	-	-
TA	Stafford Pond - NE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WO	Stillwater Inlet	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
WO	Stillwater - Bouchers Dock	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
WO	Waterman @ Rte 44	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
WO	Waterman @ Saw Mill	13.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Wesquage Inlet - Bonnet Pt Rd (from Little Pond)	37	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Wesquage Inlet - Lake Road	43.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Wesquage Outlet - Ponside	112.6	-	-	-	-	-	-