

2022 Bacteria Data - Greenwich Bay Watershed Sites Enterococci Data

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 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. (Fecal coliform data is available for the Greenwich Bay tributaries in the "Tidal Rivers Bacteria").

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
Code		---- Most Probable Number of Enterococci per 100 mL ----						
GB	GB #5 Hardig Brook	16	5654	343	-	-	-	317
GB	GB #7 - Southern Creek	91	4611	3654	-	-	-	1154
GB	GrBay #6 - Ponaug Marina	20	393	148	41	10	10	41
GB	GrBay #13 - EG Town Dock	20	10	10	10	31	10	14
GB	STB - Greenwich Cove	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10
NA	STB - GB Sally Rock	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10
GB	STB - Warwick Cove	<10	<10	<10	<10	20	<10	<10
NA	STB - Greenwich Bay Mouth	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10
NA	STB - Providence River off Save The Bay	<10	<10	<10	<10	41	<10	<10

STB and GB/GrBay sites are on different schedules, results represent varying conditions.



New public pier at Save The Bay
 (Image from
<https://providencedailydose.com/2019/05/21/new-public-pier-opens-at-save-the-bay/>)