

2022 Bacteria Data - Wesquage Pond System Sites

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.

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	Up/downstream and west to east	---- Most Probable Number of Enterococci per 100 mL ----						
NA	Wesquage Inlet - Lake Road	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Wesquage Culvert (NA-62)	-	2005	Dry	Dry	-	-	-
NA	Wesquage Pond (near outlet)	-	20	22	166.4	-	-	42
NA	Wesquage Outlet	-	31	-	-	-	-	-

Watershed code	MONITORING LOCATION	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	GEOMEAN
Code	Up/downstream and west to east	---- Most Probable Number of Fecal coliform per 100 mL ----						
NA	Wesquage Inlet - Lake Road	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NA	Wesquage Culvert (NA-62)	-	1652	Dry	Dry	-	-	-
NA	Wesquage Pond (near outlet)	-	64	164	1203.3	-	-	233
NA	Wesquage Outlet	-	87	-	-	-	-	-