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Health Department's beach monitoring program underway



Crystal Lake Beach, Montcalm County

Ithaca, Stanton, St. Johns- Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD) received a grant through Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) to monitor a select number of inland lake beaches in the district for E. coli.

The beaches being monitored in MMDHDs jurisdiction are Park Lake in Bath, Sleepy Hollow State Park in Lainsburg, Motz Park in St. Johns, Clinton Lakes in St. Johns, Paul Hubscher County Park in Sumner, Reed Park in North Star, and Crystal Lake in Crystal.

Mid-Michigan District Health Department's Environmental Health Sanitarians began water sampling in early June and will continue sampling until early September. Water samples are collected once a week with results posted on EGLEs Beach Guard website (egle.state.mi.us/beach/). On this website you can also see results for all beaches being monitored in the State of Michigan.

If sample results are above full body contact standards (E.coli contamination exceeding 300 Ecoli per 100 milliliters of water), the beach will not be closed but MMDHD will post an advisory, informing people that the beach does not meet standards for swimming. In these cases, MMDHD will also notify operators of the beach and provide them with recommendations on how to correct the situation. Once the E. coli level falls below full body contact standards, the advisory will be lifted, and the signs will be removed.

Signs and symptoms of E. coli usually begin three or four days after exposure to the bacteria and can cause diarrhea, stomach cramping, nausea, and vomiting.

For more information on MMDHDs beach monitoring program, visit mmdhd.org/recreational-water/

Mid-Michigan District Health Department serves the residents of Clinton, Gratiot, and Montcalm Counties.

We take action to protect, maintain and improve the health of our community.

Advancing innovative solutions to achieve healthier outcomes

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