FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Shaun May
850-833-9240 x 2145 | Cell: 850-699-4225

OKALOOSA COUNTY SALTWATER BEACH MONITORING RESULTS for October 14, 2013

The Florida Department of Health in Okaloosa County (DOH-Okaloosa) conducts weekly saltwater beach water quality monitoring at 13 sites through the Healthy Beaches Monitoring Program. The water samples are analyzed for enteric bacteria (enterococci) that normally inhabit the intestinal tract of humans and animals and which may cause human disease, infections, or rashes. The presence of enteric bacteria is an indication of fecal pollution, which may come from stormwater runoff, pets and wildlife, and human sewage.

Site	Name	City	Enterococci	Water Quality
SP-1	Liza Jackson Park	**Ft. Walton Beach**	Pass	Moderate
SP-2	Garniers Park	**Ft. Walton Beach**	Pass	Moderate
SP-3	Marler Park	**Okaloosa Island**	Pass	Good
SP-4	Wayside Park	**Okaloosa Island**	Pass	Good
SP-5	Poquito Park	**Shalimar**	Pass	Good
SP-6	Gulf Islands National Seashore	**Okaloosa Island**	N/A*	N/A*
SP-7	East Pass	**Okaloosa Island**	Pass	Good
SP-8	Lincoln Park	**Valparaiso**	Pass	Good
SP-9	Henderson Beach	**Destin**	Pass	Good
SP-10	Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou State Park	**Niceville**	Pass	Moderate
SP-11	James Lee Park	**Destin**	Pass	Good
SP-13	Emerald Promenade	**Okaloosa Island**	Pass	Moderate
SP-14	Clement E Taylor Park	**Destin**	Pass	Good

*Site not available for testing due to federal park closure.

The following water quality classifications are used by the Florida Department of Health and are based upon the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) recommended standard for enterococci. The classification standard is as follows:

GOOD:	0 – 35 colony forming units (CFU) per 100 milliliters (ml) of marine water
MODERATE:	36 – 104 CFU per 100 ml of marine water
POOR	$\geq$ 105 CFU per 100 ml of marine water.

No advisories have been issued for this sampling period.

If you have questions, contact the DOH-Okaloosa County at (850) 833-9247 or (850) 689-7859. You can also visit HealthyOkaloosa.com, and click the "Healthy Beaches" link to be taken to a list of Okaloosa County's Healthy Beaches sites and maps.

DOH protects, promotes and improves the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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