PUGET SOUND
National Estuary Program

BEACH Program

BEACH Program staff and local BEACH Partners conduct weekly bacteria monitoring at approximately 15-17 recreational shellfish beaches, from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

What we're doing

Recreational shellfish beaches are monitored weekly for Enterococci (a fecal bacteria) and bi-weekly for fecal coliform bacteria. The following beaches are being monitored in 2018.

- Cline Spit County Park
- Freeland County Park/Holmes Harbor
- Davie Mackie Memorial County Park
- Herb Beck Marina
- Fort Flagler State Park
- Oak Bay County Park
- Illahee State Park
- Point No Point Lighthouse Park
- Kopachuck State Park
- Penrose Point State Park
- Purdy Sandspit County Park
- Burfoot County Park
- Birch Bay County Park
- Dash Point State Park
- Potlatch State Park
- Twanoh State Park
- Bay View State Park

How we're doing it

Monitored beaches were chosen in consultation with the local county health department, tribe, and BEACH volunteers, with the focus on monitoring high use, high risk (for bacterial contamination) beaches. Monitoring is conducted by BEACH Program staff and local BEACH Program partners.



WHY IS THIS ISSUE IMPORTANT

This type of monitoring scheme (weekly monitoring) provides an early warning to Department of Health (DOH), local Tribes, and local governments (including PIC Programs) on bacteria trends at their recreational shellfish beaches, and nearby commercial and tribal shellfish areas.

ABOUT the BEACH Program

The BEACH Program monitors high-use, high risk saltwater beaches weekly from Memorial Day to Labor Day for fecal indicator bacteria to make sure people stay healthy when they play or swim at the beach.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines/Water-quality/Saltwater/BEACH-program

Julianne Ruffner, WA Depts. of Ecology and Health
jruf461@ecy.wa.gov (360) 407-6154

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