

September 12, 2019

## OKALOOSA COUNTY SALTWATER BEACH MONITORING RESULTS FOR September 9, 2019



*Health advisories issued for Garniers Park, Poquito Park, Lincoln Park, Rocky Bayou State Park, and James Lee Park*

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**Ft. Walton Beach, Fla–** The Florida Department of Health in Okaloosa County (DOH-Okaloosa) conducts weekly saltwater beach water quality monitoring at 11 sites through the Healthy Beaches Monitoring Program. Samples are collected from March through the end of October. 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.

*Health advisories are issued for **Garniers Park** of Fort Walton Beach, **Poquito Park** of Shalimar, **Lincoln Park** of Valparaiso, **Rocky Bayou State Park** of Niceville, and **James Lee Park** of Destin. The health advisories are based on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's recommended standards for enterococci. This should be considered a potential health risk to the bathing public.*

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

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