

March 9, 2016

## OKALOOSA COUNTY SALTWATER BEACH MONITORING RESULTS FOR MARCH 7, 2016



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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 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        | Good          |
| 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  | Pass        | Good          |
| 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<br><a href="#">Rocky Bayou State Park</a> | Niceville        | Pass        | Good          |
| SP-11 | James Lee Park  | Destin           | Pass        | Good          |
| SP-13 | Emerald Promenade                                     | Okaloosa Island  | Pass        | Good          |
| SP-14 | Clement E Taylor Park                                 | Destin           | Pass        | Good          |

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: 36-70 CFU per 100 ml of marine water

POOR: greater than 70 CFU per 100 ml of marine water

**No advisories have been issued for this sample period.**

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

The Department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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