

May 29, 2020

MARTIN COUNTY BACTERIA LEVELS ELEVATED

Residents urged to avoid contact with waters near the Roosevelt Bridge, Old Palm City Bridge at Leighton Park, and Sandsprit Park.



Contact:

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Martin County, FL – Following heavy rains in Martin County this week an advisory is now in effect for the waters near the Roosevelt Bridge, the Old Palm City Bridge at Leighton Park, and Sandsprit Park. Results from water samples taken on Thursday showed higher than normal levels of enteric bacteria.

Enteric bacteria inhabit the intestinal tract of humans and animals and their presence in recreational waters is an indication of fecal pollution. The presence of these bacteria may come from storm water runoff, pets, wildlife and human sewage.

Potential health risks for those who ingest or come in contact with the water include upset stomach, diarrhea, eye irritation and skin rashes.

The advisory will remain in effect at these locations until results show consistent readings in the good range. The areas will be re-tested again on Monday, June 1.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has been notified of the rise in bacteria levels for review and follow-up.

The Florida Department of Health in Martin County conducts weekly enteric bacteria water sampling at three St Lucie River sites, three Indian River Lagoon sites, and five beach sites.

River and beach water sample results can be viewed at:

<http://martin.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/environmental-health/beach-and-river-sampling/results/index.html>

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