

## **Coastal Health District**

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**NEWS RELEASE** 

January 23, 2019

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## Beach Advisories Issued for Two Beaches on St. Simons Island and Five Beaches on Jekyll Island

GLYNN COUNTY, GA – The Glynn County Health Department has issued advisories for 5<sup>th</sup> St. Crossover Beach (Cedar St. to 9<sup>th</sup> St.) and East Beach at the old Coast Guard station (10<sup>th</sup> St. to Driftwood Dr.) on St. Simons Island and South Beach at 4H Camp (South water tower to Macy Ln.), South Dunes Picnic Area Beach (Corsair Beach Park to south water tower), Capt. Wylly Rd. Crossover Beach (Brice Ln. to the beach pavilion), North Beach at Dexter Lane (Tallu Fish Ln. to Brice Ln.), and Driftwood Beach (Beach KM marker 1 to Tallu Fish Ln.) on Jekyll Island.

This advisories are only for the area(s) specified above and do not impact any other beaches on the island. There is no way of knowing if going into water that is under advisory will result in illness; however, this beach water advisory is to alert the public of a possible risk of illness associated with water contact. An area under advisory does not mean the beach is closed.

Water samples are tested only for enterococcus (pronounced: en·ter·o·coc·cus) bacteria which is found in warm blooded animals including humans but also birds, raccoons, deer, dolphins and other wildlife. It is difficult to determine exactly where the bacteria come from but some sources could include animal waste, storm water runoff, or boating waste. When a beach is under advisory, it means that the level of bacteria found in the water is above the Environmental Protection Agency's recommended standards.

The Glynn County Health Department recommends you do not swim or wade in the water in the area(s) under advisory. Fish and other seafood caught from this area should be thoroughly washed with fresh water and thoroughly cooked before eating as should fish or seafood caught from any waters.

The area will be retested and the advisory will be lifted when tests show the bacteria levels meet the Environmental Protection Agency's recommended standards. For more information about beach water testing, go to <a href="www.gachd.org">www.gachd.org</a> and click on the Environmental Health tab at the top of the page.

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