

NEWS RELEASE
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**Health Department Lifts Advisory for Blythe Island Sandbar;
Issues Advisory for St. Simons Island South Beach at Lighthouse**

GLYNN COUNTY, GA – The Glynn County Health Department has lifted the swimming advisory for the Blythe Island Sandbar (from South Brunswick River at Hwy. 303 Bridge to Blythe Island Regional Park). The advisory was issued on May 18, 2011 after routine water quality tests showed a high level of enterococci bacteria which increase the risk of gastrointestinal illness in swimmers. Subsequent water samples taken showed that the bacteria levels had dropped below Environmental Protection Agency's recommended limits. Therefore, the advisory has been lifted.

The Glynn County Health Department has placed South Beach at Lighthouse (from 9th Street to the Pier) on St. Simons Island under advisory. Routine water quality tests from samples taken May 24 show the beach water in this area contains a high level of enterococci bacteria, which increase the risk of gastrointestinal illness in swimmers.

The Glynn County Health Department recommends you do not swim or wade in the water in this area. Fish and other seafood caught from this area should be thoroughly washed with fresh water and thoroughly cooked before eating.

The area will be retested and the advisory will be lifted when tests show the bacteria levels meet the Environmental Protection Agency's recommended standard.

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