Marine and Freshwater Beach Testing in Massachusetts

Annual Report: 2009 Season

Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Bureau of Environmental Health
Environmental Toxicology Program
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PART ONE: THE MDPH/BEH BEACHES PROJECT

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I. OVERVIEW

There are over 1,100 public and semi-public bathing beaches in Massachusetts, both freshwater and marine, many of which are used by Massachusetts residents. Depending on weather and a variety of other changing conditions, beach water sometimes contains bacteria at levels that can cause health problems such as sore throat, gastroenteritis, or even meningitis or encephalitis.[1] Therefore, it is critical to ensure that bacteria levels at beaches are monitored, and that such levels are acceptable and within public health standards. In 2009, bacteria levels that exceeded public health standards were detected on 794 different occasions across the state, resulting in temporary beach closures. This represents 5.0% of all samples collected during the 2009 season.

In Massachusetts, bathing beach water quality is regulated by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) under Massachusetts General Law[2] and the Code of Massachusetts Regulations.[3] These require that all public and semi-public bathing beaches (e.g., beaches at camps, campgrounds, hotels, condominiums, country clubs) in the state be monitored for bacterial, and on occasion other environmental contamination during the bathing beach season. The exact dates of a given bathing season vary from beach to beach, and are determined by the operators of each individual beach. Some beaches open as early as Memorial Day, but the majority begin operation when the school year ends in mid-June, and most close for the season during the week of Labor Day.

The vast majority of beach water sampling in Massachusetts is conducted by local boards of health, the Barnstable County Department of Health and the Environment, and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (MDCR). Most marine beach samples are analyzed at laboratories under contract with MDPH's Bureau of Environmental Health (BEH). BEH utilizes federal Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) funds to support these costs. Most freshwater samples are analyzed at private laboratories hired by beach operators or boards of health, while a small number are analyzed at municipal laboratories.

Bathing water samples that are found to contain levels of bacterial contamination in excess of regulatory standards are termed exceedances. If water samples from a beach are found to be in exceedance of regulatory standards, the beach waters must be closed. When this happens signs must be posted at access points to the beach notifying the public that swimming is unsafe due to bacterial contamination. For marine beaches, the public is also notified via the Beach Water Quality Locator, on the MDPH/BEH website, which is operated in collaboration with local health officials and MDPH contract laboratories.[4] Local health officials and MDPH/BEH contract laboratories collect and analyze the samples and perform a majority of the data entry onto the website. MDPH/BEH is notified of exceedances within 24 hours (105 CMR 445.040). Beaches are to remain closed until their bacteria counts

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[1] Cabelli, 1983; USEPA, 1986; Cabelli, 1989; Haile, 1996; Pruss, 1998.

[2] MGL Chapter (C) 111, § Section (S) 5. See Appendix A.

[3] 105 CMR 445.000: Minimum Standards for Bathing Beaches (State Sanitary Code, Chapter VII). See Appendix B.

[4] The address of the MDPH/BEH website can be found on the cover of this report.

decrease to levels below the applicable standard, at which point the postings can be removed and MDPH/BEH is notified of the beach reopening.

II. BACKGROUND

A. Beach Water Quality & Health: The Need for Testing

The health risks associated with both marine and freshwater swimming have been demonstrated in numerous studies. Swimmers may ingest or absorb pathogens (illness-causing microorganisms), and several prospective and retrospective epidemiological studies have demonstrated an increased risk of disease among swimmers relative to non-swimmers in both marine and fresh waters that are polluted with bacteria.[5] One retrospective study found the relative risk of gastrointestinal (GI) illness among swimmers in polluted waters to be 1.0 to 3.0 times that of non-swimmers.[6]

Swimming in polluted marine water can lead to gastrointestinal symptoms (e.g., nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain), respiratory symptoms (e.g., sore throat, cough, chest cold, runny nose, sneezing), eye and ear symptoms (e.g., irritation, earache, itchiness), dermatological symptoms (e.g., skin rash, pruritis), or constitutional symptoms (e.g., fever, chills). Several studies conducted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and others have associated gastrointestinal symptoms with swimming in polluted fresh waters as well, and more recent studies have reaffirmed that there is a significant association between swimming in contaminated water and gastrointestinal illness.[7]

Pathogens in beach waters typically have a fecal source, and pathogens associated with human fecal matter (e.g., some strains of *Escherichia coli*) may enter beach waters (both marine and fresh) in a variety of ways. Many of these pathways involve sewage: system failures in human sewage treatment facilities, leaking sewer pipes, combined sewer overflows, illegal sewer hookups, leachate from septic systems, or discharge of sewage by boats. Other sources of pathogens in beach waters include (but are not limited to) rainfall and resulting surface water runoff (washing contaminants such as animal wastes from dogs or farms into beach water). Bathers may also contribute significantly to pathogen concentrations in recreational waters,[8] and swimmer-to-swimmer contamination is another potential source for microbiological contamination. All of these factors contribute to elevations in bacteria which can cause illness among swimmers.

B. Establishment of the MDPH/BEH Beaches Project

Responding to these health concerns, state and federal regulatory agencies have worked together to establish a system to protect the public from exposure to swimming-related pathogens.

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[5] Cabelli et al., 1982; Cabelli, 1983; USEPA, 1986; Cabelli, 1989; Coye and Goldoft,1989; CDC, 1990-2004; Corbett et al., 1993; Haile, 1996; Pruss, 1998.

[6] Pruss, 1998.

[7] Wade et al., 2003; Wade et al., 2006

[8] California, 1997; Gerba, 2000

In 1996, MDPH conducted a state-wide beach survey of all Massachusetts municipalities, thereby establishing an initial inventory of all public marine bathing beaches in the state. Based on information collected from local boards of health, beach managers, and other parties, MDPH compiled a documented inventory which has been updated over time and currently includes over 500 marine and 600 freshwater beaches. The inventory is updated continually to reflect changes in beach names, boundaries, etc.

In 2000, the U.S. Congress enacted the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act (Appendix C). The BEACH Act, which amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (often referred to as the Clean Water Act, or CWA) is intended to improve the quality of the nation's coastal recreational waters. It seeks to reduce the risk of illness to users of these waters through the identification of high-risk beaches, identification and mitigation of sources of pollution, and notification/ risk communication to the public. It also authorizes grants to eligible states to support these objectives.

Also in 2000, the Massachusetts legislature passed An Act Relative to Minimum Standards for Public Bathing Waters, often referred to as the Massachusetts Beaches Act (Appendix D). The Act directed MDPH and local health officials:

(1) to adopt bathing water standards protective of public health to apply to all public and semi-public bathing beaches across the state;
(2) to require regular bacteria testing at all public and semi-public beaches; and
(3) to notify the public when bathing standards are violated.

The Act mandated that all beaches be tested weekly except where MDPH and the local board of health stipulated a greater or lesser frequency for a specific beach. It also mandated MDPH to publish an annual report analyzing statewide bacteria testing results.

Since late 2001, the program has received funding from the USEPA. This funding partially supports MDPH efforts

(1) to develop and maintain an inventory of marine bathing beaches;
(2) to compile and analyze monitoring data; and
(3) to conduct assessments of those beaches identified as high-risk.

With the help of these funds, and building upon such groundwork as the beaches inventory, the web-based reporting system, and mapping layer, MDPH/BEH has established a system of routine beach monitoring oversight that has been in place 2002. The elements of this system are described below.

In 2001, MDPH initiated the development of its web-based system for public notification of marine beach closures and water quality monitoring data. Developed by MDPH in conjunction with Garrison Enterprises, with funding support from the USEPA BEACH grant, the site went online in 2003. It provides a mechanism for marine beach water testing data results to be uploaded into a central database immediately after laboratory analysis is complete. Violations are identified by the system automatically, and this information is made available to the public on the Beach Water Quality Locator, a website that is updated twice each day. By visiting the Locator, the public can quickly learn which beaches are open or closed and the reason behind any closure. [9]

[9] The Beach Water Quality Locator can be accessed through the main MDPH/BEH website (see cover) and clicking on "Bathing Beaches." It can also be accessed directly at http://mass.digitalhealthdepartment.com/public_21/index.cfm.

This system was enhanced in 2006 to more clearly explain and illustrate the sampling results, for example by providing easy viewing of historical monitoring data, and to speed the entry and quality of data by laboratories that use the system. These improvements allow the public to quickly find the locations of all beaches through the use of the new GIS maps and provide for easy viewing of graphical and tabular historical monitoring data.

In 2002, the MDPH/BEH Environmental Toxicology and Community Sanitation Programs collaborated and released the first annual beaches report, summarizing beach water sampling and results from the 2001 beach season. Since that time, an annual report has been prepared and publicly released for each subsequent bathing season.

In 2003, MDPH worked with local health officials to gather key information on all Massachusetts marine bathing beaches, then validated that information by performing site visits to each beach and taking in-field GPS readings. With the help of Applied Geographics, Inc., MDPH converted the GPS coordinates into a detailed geographic information system (GIS) layer. For every beach, the GIS layer contains the following information:

- location and specific boundaries of the beach itself
- locations of normal access points and parking lots
- public or semi-public designation (or private, if known)
- sampling location(s) for routine water monitoring
- location at each beach where posting signs will be placed in the event that the beach is closed

All information was validated by MDPH staff.

That year, MDPH/BEH also developed the *Public Health-Based Beach Evaluation, Classification, and Tiered Monitoring Plan.* The plan sets forth a three-tiered system for categorizing every marine beach according to the severity of its pollution. Based on this information, a testing frequency is determined which is tailored to the specific needs of the beach, with greater resources being devoted to testing the most polluted beaches. A full description of this system can be found on page 15.

Also in 2003, MDPH finalized its *Quality Management Plan* (QMP) for all beaches activities under the USEPA BEACH grant, as well as for other activities specific to bathing beach regulations. The QMP described how the program would develop, implement, and determine the effectiveness of, its quality assurance and quality control policies and procedures.

In the same year, MDPH completed its *Quality Assurance Project Plan* (QAPP), which was approved by USEPA. In 2007, the QAPP was revised to reflect changes in the Beaches Project. This update was approved by USEPA and distributed to MDPH/BEH's contract laboratories before the 2007 beach season. The QAPP describes quality assurance, quality control, and related steps (including enforcement measures) taken to ensure that the results of the project will meet USEPA's published performance criteria. It also updates details on approved laboratory methods, MDPH/BEH contacts, and website information.

III. BEACH WATER QUALITY MONITORING

A. Sample collection

The water quality samples for most public bathing beaches in Massachusetts are collected by local boards of health; on Cape Cod a number of beaches are sampled by the Barnstable County Department of Health and the Environment. The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (MDCR), which operates beaches, performs its own sampling. Samples for semi-public beaches are usually collected by the beach operator, although there are some communities that collect semi-public beach samples in the course of their routine sampling of public beaches.

Sample collection is required to be in compliance with the *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Waste Water* of the American Public Health Association or as approved by the USEPA. Sample collectors are to record a variety of field data at the time of sample collection, using the current Beach Sampling Field Data Form developed by MDPH/BEH (Appendix E). The information collected includes:

- Community where beach is located
- Name of beach
- Beach type (marine or freshwater)
- Date of sample collection
- Sample collector
- Sample identification number
- Time of sample collection
- Weather condition at time of sample collection
- Air temperature
- Wind direction
- Time of last high tide (if applicable)
- Number of days since last rainfall
- Bather density (i.e., number of people in the water)
- Water temperature
- Water clarity (i.e., is the sample clear or cloudy/murky?)
- Observations (e.g., trash, sludge deposits, oils, algae, fish die-off, jellyfish, birds)
- Comments

Water samples, with field data form attached, are submitted to a certified laboratory for analysis. The field data are later included with the corresponding laboratory results when they are submitted to MDPH/BEH (see the Reporting section, below).

B. Sample analysis

1. THE MDPH CONTRACT LABORATORY PROGRAM

All beach water samples are required to be analyzed within six hours of collection. The laboratories who perform this analysis are generally hired by either the city or town the beach is in (most often by its board of health, but sometimes by another municipal department, e.g. recreation) or by the operator of that beach. As mentioned earlier, MDPH/BEH uses part of its federal funding to set up contracts with a number of laboratories to analyze qualifying communities' public marine beach samples. Since 2003, MDPH/BEH has reimbursed communities over $550,000 for the analysis of over 35,000 marine samples from over 50 communities that have taken part in the contract laboratory program. The

contract laboratories were successfully audited by MDPH/BEH staff in 2005 to ensure compliance with the QAPP and Standard Operating Procedures.

2. THE USE OF INDICATORS

In the United States, most swimming-associated diseases are caused by a wide variety of pathogens associated with fecal contamination (Cabelli, 1983). Most of these pathogens are very difficult to measure directly, but water samples that contain them also contain other microorganisms which are easier to measure. These "indicator organisms" provide a reliable indication of the pathogens' presence and quantity. By measuring these other microorganisms, which live in the same microbiologic conditions, follow the same life cycles, and occur at levels proportionate to those of the pathogens, public health officials are able to estimate the level of the pathogens in beach water samples. When the presence of one microorganism is used to indicate the presence of another, it is referred to as an "indicator."

The most accurate indicators of fecal contamination (and thus of risk to swimmers) are specific microorganisms that are predominantly present in human and animal feces, such as *Streptococcus faecalis* or *Clostridium perfringens* (Cabelli, 1983). However, testing for a single indicator species can fail to detect the presence of fecal pathogens if that indicator species does not survive in the natural environment for as long as the fecal pathogens themselves (NAS, 1977). Therefore, it is preferable to test for groups of microorganisms, such as total coliforms, fecal coliforms, or Enterococci, instead (Cabelli, 1983). These analyses are usually easier and faster to perform than those that test for only one indicator species, although a disadvantage of using groups of microorganisms as indicators is that this method can also detect organisms not associated with fecal contamination, thus falsely predicting the presence of fecal contamination (NAS, 1977; Cabelli, 1983; Barrell et al., 2000). However, in the case of Enterococci, results do correlate strongly with swimming-associated illnesses (USEPA, 1986; Pruss, 1998).

3. ENTEROCOCCI

In its *Ambient Water Quality for Bacteria – 1986,* USEPA recommended that Enterococci rather than fecal or total coliforms be used as the indicator species in marine water quality testing. This recommendation was based on studies performed at three locations (New York, NY; Boston, MA; and Lake Pontchartrain, LA) that demonstrated that gastrointestinal symptoms reported by swimmers were strongly correlated with Enterococci levels, but not with levels of total or fecal coliforms (Cabelli,1983). In the late 1990s, rapid laboratory methods became available to allow for the adoption of this indicator. Since 2000, Enterococci has been the required indicator for routine marine beach testing in Massachusetts (105 CMR 445.000). All marine beaches submitting data have used this method since 2004.

The Enterococci method detects the number of bacteria that grow under certain laboratory conditions (USEPA, 1985). It measures the concentration of bacteria from a group of species within the *Streptococcus* genus, some of which (e.g., *Streptococcus faecalis*) are typically found in human and animal intestines (USEPA, 1985). Although not all of the species detected by this method are associated with fecal contamination (USEPA, 1985), leading to false-positive results, it is prudent, for public health purposes, to treat all exceedances in indicator level as possible public health risks. Moreover, the Enterococci method does not detect as many non-fecal species as older methods do (e.g., fecal or the total coliform), and is therefore more accurate. Having said that, all viruses and some bacterial pathogens are not detected by this method.

4. *E. COLI*

Escherichia coli, usually referred to as *E. coli*, is a species of bacteria that originates in human and animal intestines (USEPA, 1985). Certain strains of this species are enteric (i.e., intestinal) pathogens (NAS, 1977). While both the total and fecal coliform methods can detect *E. coli* as part of a group of organisms, the *E. coli* method tests specifically for the presence or absence of this one particular species. Because *E. coli* originates in human and animal intestines, this method is a very sensitive indicator of fecal contamination for freshwater beaches (USEPA, 1985).

5. LABORATORY METHODS

Enterococci and *E. coli* are currently the preferred indicators for beach water quality testing, and the only ones accepted in Massachusetts. The laboratory methods required for beach water analysis in Massachusetts are those specified in the most recent edition of the American Public Health Association's *Standard Methods for Examination of Water and Waste Water* or as approved by the USEPA.

Currently, the required methods for Enterococcus are either Method 1600: Membrane Filter Test Method for Enterococci in Water, or Enterolert. Method 1600, which was approved and adopted by USEPA in 1997, enables a faster turnaround time for testing of Enterococci, making it practical for local use. Laboratories contracted by MDPH to perform public, marine beach sample analysis are required to utilize the Modified Enterococci Method (Method 1600) or Enterolert as approved by the USEPA and the MDPH/BEH Beach Project QAPP. Both are culture-enzyme-substrate methods, approved and adopted by USEPA in 2003 for testing ambient water (Jagals et al., 2000; Federal Register, 2003).

6. BACTERIAL STANDARDS

Water quality standards are guidance concentrations used by public health officials to make decisions regarding the health risks associated with swimming. These criteria are typically expressed as the concentration of an indicator in the water above which there is an unacceptable risk for adverse health effects in swimmers.

Because the correlation between indicator levels and the levels of the actual pathogens posing health concerns is strong, indicator levels allow public health officials to estimate the health risk related to swimming at a particular beach. But other site-specific factors are taken into consideration to supplement these estimates, such as recent rainfall patterns and the number of people who use the beach.

The concentration of a microorganism in water is usually reported as the number of colony forming units (CFU) of indicators present per 100 milliliters (ml) of water. Massachusetts has specific water quality standards for marine water and freshwater.

<u>Marine</u>

USEPA (1986) used the relationship between the number of cases of swimming-associated disease and the Enterococci concentration in bathing water to establish the criteria for Enterococci in marine waters at 104 CFU per 100 ml for a single sample and 35 CFU per 100 ml for the geometric mean of at least five samples over a 30-day period. These standards were set such that the expected incidence of gastrointestinal illness among swimmers would be the same as it had been for the previous USEPA water quality criteria

for fecal coliform (i.e., 19 illnesses per 1,000 swimmers at marine beaches). MDPH/BEH adopted this standard by regulation beginning with the 2000 bathing season.

Freshwater

As indicated in the regulations (105 CMR 445.031) (see Appendix B), the indicator organisms for freshwater bathing beaches are *E. coli* and Enterococcus. This is based on research conducted by USEPA (Dufour, 1984; USEPA, 1986). Each freshwater beach is required to test for one of these two indicators.

For Enterococcus, no sample shall exceed 61 CFU per 100 ml, and the geometric mean of the most recent five Enterococci samples within the same bathing season shall not exceed 33 CFU per 100 ml. For *E. coli*, no sample shall exceed 235 CFU per 100 ml, and the geometric mean of the most recent five *E. coli* samples within the same bathing season shall not exceed 126 CFU per 100 ml. These are the standard criteria established in MDPH/BEH regulations (105 CMR 445.031).

Both the *E. coli* and the Enterococcus standards are based on studies (Dufour, 1984; USEPA, 1986) that showed that levels of *E. coli* and Enterococci correlated strongly with rates of swimmer-associated gastrointestinal disease in freshwaters. The values are set to a level of risk of no more than eight cases of acute gastrointestinal illness per 1,000 swimmers in freshwater beaches.

C. Reporting

The laboratories performing these analyses report their results to the beach operator or board of health that has hired them. Beach operators report their results to the local board of health. Boards of health report them to MDPH/BEH.

For communities having public, marine beaches, the MDPH contract laboratories report the results directly to the MDPH/BEH Beaches Website via a secure Internet connection as soon as they are generated. Data are then displayed on the Beaches website in near real-time for public notification of beach closures and test results. Some boards of health that do not use MDPH/BEH contract laboratories fax their marine sampling results to MDPH/BEH staff who either enter the data onto the beaches website or have other laboratories perform this input for them.

1. THE BEACHES WEBSITE

In 2003, using funding provided as part of the USEPA BEACH Grant, MDPH established a web-based system designed to make up-to-date water quality information on all public, marine beaches available to the public as quickly as possible. This system has two components:

(1) A series of password-protected data-entry pages through which MDPH/BEH contract laboratories enter all water quality data (along with corresponding field data) directly into one centralized database. The laboratories are required under the MDPH/BEH contract to enter these data as soon as they become available. Local boards of health also have access to this portion of the website to review laboratory and associated field data in order to most efficiently take public health action.

(2) The Beach Water Quality Locator, a public website that allows users to select a beach via a series of interactive maps of the Massachusetts coast to see if it is

currently open and to view its most recent test results. Historical data for each beach are available as well.[10]

In 2004, MDPH developed its *Data Submission Plan for Routine Monitoring*, which was then submitted to and approved by USEPA. The procedures outlined in this document are used for data submission under the USEPA BEACH grant, as well as for other activities specific to bathing beach regulations. The Plan is a required document that describes Massachusetts' plan for submitting the beach data it collects from coastal municipalities to USEPA. USEPA then compiles data from all states to develop a national picture of marine bathing water quality.

In 2006, the MDPH beaches website was enhanced through the addition of a GIS layer to display maps of beach locations, provide graphs for both single sample and geometric mean data, and improved reliability and efficiency for data entry. These improvements allow the public to quickly find the locations of all beaches through the use of new GIS maps and to view graphical and tabular historical monitoring data.

2. EXCEEDANCES: BEACH CLOSURES & PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

When a water sample from a beach exceeds bacterial standards (either single sample or geometric mean), Massachusetts law requires that the beach be closed. MDPH/BEH contract laboratories are required to report exceedances of bacterial water quality standards to MDPH/BEH and local boards of health as soon as analyses are completed and results available. Beach operators are required to report exceedances to their local boards of health immediately.

Under Massachusetts law (MGL C 111, § 5S), the local board of health is required to post standard signs at the key access points to a beach immediately after, or within 24 hours of, being notified that the beach did not meet water quality standards. In addition, the board of health is required to notify MDPH/BEH within 24 hours of the exceedance and the closure by faxing both the laboratory results and a standard beach closure form provided to them by MDPH/BEH. The closure form affirms that that the beach waters have been closed and that signs have been put up at to that beach. MDCR is responsible for the closure and posting of its own beaches, in the event of an exceedance.

For public marine beaches, up-to-date closure information can also be accessed on MDPH/BEH's Beach Water Quality Locator website. MDPH contract laboratories enter these results into the Beaches Website as soon as they become available. When the results for a given beach exceed water quality standards for either a single-sample or geometric mean, the website automatically generates a notification of that beach's closure. These closure notifications (or "postings") are added to the Beach Water Quality Locator webpage twice each day, at 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM. This means the web-based system allows for public notification that is as near to real-time as possible. Local health officials can view postings shortly before public notification, which gives them an opportunity to place closure signs at the beaches and to prepare for public inquiries that may result, depending on the

[10] The Beach Water Quality Locator can be accessed through the main MDPH/BEH website (see cover) and clicking on "Bathing Beaches." It can also be accessed directly at http://mass.digitalhealthdepartment.com/public_21/index.cfm.

most recent data. MDPH/BEH staff have provided training to local health officials on how to use the website.

3. DATA MANAGEMENT

Marine data, already entered via the website, are uploaded to USEPA by MDPH/BEH in fulfillment of USEPA reporting requirements under the USEPA BEACH Grant, which mandates that MDPH must electronically report to USEPA all routine marine monitoring sampling data and laboratory results, as well as beach postings, on an annual basis.

The marine data are also kept in an in-house database at MDPH/BEH for analysis and inclusion in this report. Freshwater data (including field data) are entered into the same database.

All data are validated and checked for completeness by MDPH/BEH personnel. Local boards of health and laboratories are contacted directly, as necessary, to resolve questions and discrepancies in the data.

D. Quality Assurance

As previously mentioned, MDPH/BEH's *Quality Assurance Project Plan* was revised in 2007. This document, approved by USEPA, describes the quality assurance/quality control mechanisms MDPH/BEH has developed to ensure that the state's beach monitoring activities and the resulting data meet USEPA's published performance criteria. Copies of the revised QAPP were distributed to all MDPH contract laboratories in 2007. MDPH/BEH uses the same standards for its freshwater monitoring activities.

There are four main parts of the QAPP: project management, data generation and acquisition, assessment and oversight, and data validation and usability. The project management section describes the project's organization, planning, schedule, and performance criteria. The data generation and acquisition section discusses the sampling and analytical methods, chain-of-custody, and instrument/equipment quality control. The section on assessment and oversight outlines the audits and assessments that will be performed to ensure compliance with the QAPP and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). The final section, data validation and usability, describes the process for reviewing, verifying, and validating data.

E. The Tier System and Frequency of Testing

The Massachusetts and federal beach Acts require that all public and semi-public marine bathing beaches be tested weekly. However, some beaches have a history of severe pollution problems, while others have proven over time to be exceptionally clean. The former require more frequent monitoring, and the latter less frequent monitoring. For a beach that has gone two years without a single violation and where a sanitary survey has been completed to ensure there is a low risk of future violations, weekly testing may result in unnecessarily burdening local health officials' resources that could be more effectively used.

1. THE THREE TIERS

To address this, the USEPA BEACH Grant required the development of a tiered monitoring approach to sampling, and in 2003 MDPH/BEH developed the *Public Health-Based Beach Evaluation, Classification, and Tiered Monitoring Plan*. The purpose of the *Plan* is to

facilitate the identification and clean-up of pollution problems, while allowing those beaches with more pristine records to be monitored less often than weekly. The Plan is based on a three-tier system that classifies all beaches according to the severity of their pollution:

> **Tier One** includes heavily used beaches which have pollution problems. USEPA believes that these beaches should be tested at least twice per week. Because of the ongoing pollution concerns/violations, those beaches are generally sampled more than once a week. There are currently seven Tier One beaches in Massachusetts. All seven are marine beaches and are tested daily.
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> **Tier Two** includes higher-use beaches with some pollution. These beaches must be tested once per week. The majority of beaches (439 of the 530 marine and 528 of the 534 freshwater beaches) are categorized as Tier Two beaches.
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> **Tier Three** beaches are those with no known pollution problems. They are required to be tested once every two weeks or sometimes less frequently, as determined by the local board of health and MDPH/BEH through the variance process. There are 86 marine beaches and 6 freshwater beaches currently listed as Tier Three beaches.

Because the frequency of monitoring mandated by both federal and state law is weekly, Tier Two functions as the default, or baseline classification. If monitoring data indicate severe pollution, a beach is reclassified as Tier One and monitored more frequently. If the data show that a beach has maintained exceptionally clean water quality, it can be reclassified as Tier Three, allowing for less frequent than weekly testing, usually one to two times a month.

2. SANITARY SURVEYS AND VARIANCES

For a beach to upgrade to Tier Three status, its operator must apply to the local board of health for a variance; beaches operated by State agencies must apply to MDPH. Pursuant to Massachusetts regulations (105 CMR 445.100), two requirements must be met for the variance to be issued: (1) the beach must have a proven track record of “clean” sampling; and (2) MDPH/BEH’s Sanitary Survey must be completed for the beach by a registered sanitarian, Certified Health Officer, or Registered Environmental Health Specialist. The Survey is a tool health officials can use to assess the level of pollution at a given beach and to identify all possible sources of contamination (e.g. sewage discharge, stormwater overflows, bird and animal populations). Local health officials must review sanitary surveys before approving variance applications for final approval by MDPH.

F. Forms

The various standardized forms involved in the monitoring process have been periodically updated to reflect changes to the monitoring system or improved based on field experience or feedback from laboratories and local health officials. Electronic versions of these forms can be obtained by clicking the “Publications and Reports” hyperlink on the MDPH/BEH beaches webpage.

IV. HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

A. Training

MDPH/BEH has held numerous training sessions for local health officials during the life of the BEACH Grant. Topics discussed have included: health concerns related to polluted bathing water, sampling methodology and use of standardized field sampling forms, administration of sanitary surveys, current federal and state regulations, MDPH/BEH's Beaches website and an overview of the GPS survey of marine beaches in Massachusetts. MDPH/BEH trainings have also presented information on identifying actual and/or potential sources of contamination. Additional technical guidance is frequently provided through mailings and personal communications with local health officials. Each year, MDPH/BEH ETP contacts boards of health to discuss any reporting deficiencies and then MDPH updates its internal database based on these conversations.

B. Emergency Response

MDPH/BEH staff have also provided assistance in investigating potential outbreaks of water-borne parasites and illnesses. In past years, incidents requiring emergency response have included cases of *E. coli* O157:H7, giardiasis, and Vibrio vulnificus infections. These response actions can involve reviewing sampling results and/or medical records, or the preparation of educational materials, often in collaboration with local boards of health, other programs within MDPH/BEH (e.g. Food Protection, Community Sanitation) or other state agencies (e.g. MDPH's Bureau of Infectious Disease Prevention, Response and Services; MA Division of Marine Fisheries).

MDPH/BEH has also responded to numerous incidents involving algal blooms whose proximity to bathing beaches posed a potential health risk to swimmers. MDPH/BEH has provided technical support to local health officials in response to algal blooms across the state. Typically, this involves performing a site visit and providing educational materials. In 2007, MDPH/BEH developed a protocol for responding to harmful algae blooms at freshwater bodies. The algae protocol includes testing methodology, public notification guidelines, and algal concentration guidelines. The document benefited from the collaboration and input of MDCR and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP).

V. LIMITATIONS

The ability of MDPH/BEH to provide prompt public notification of beach water quality monitoring results is limited by both the completeness and accuracy of the data reported; the use of indicator organism criteria which, although strongly supported in the recent literature, has some uncertainties; and analytical techniques that require 24 hours to generate results, thereby potentially leaving beach users at risk.

Although data completeness and accuracy are inevitably reliant upon the multiplicity of parties and individuals involved in data collection and reporting, the electronic reporting system and public beaches website have vastly improved the accuracy and quality of marine data submitted. Another stabilizing factor is the nearly 100% compliance Massachusetts has achieved in recent years in the use of Enterococci, the state and federally mandated indicator organism, for testing by public marine beaches reporting routine monitoring results.

The use of proper and consistent sampling procedures is an important step in ensuring the quality of data reported. As a result of training, the use of standardized field sampling forms and the participation of contracted laboratories, consistency in the format and completeness of data reported continues to improve.

In recent years, MDPH/BEH was provided data from approximately 99% of the communities with open freshwater beaches. The amount and quality of data submitted from each community, however, varied greatly. During the beach season, communities often use different monitoring techniques. Therefore, the comprehensiveness of data varies among communities. Currently, with the exception of exceedances, which are required to be reported to the MDPH/BEH within 24 hours, freshwater beach data are normally reported once during the year, after the end of the beach season. As a result, MDPH/BEH ETP personnel can only review the data for proper sample collecting and testing techniques after the sampling season has ended. MDPH/BEH continues to work individually with local boards of health to reduce issues related to quality control and variability by providing guidance and resources as necessary.

Another limitation, related to the specificity of analytical methods, is that the data are indicator-, not pathogen-, specific. As a result, the data only suggest a potential for the presence of pathogens that can cause human disease. The presence or absence of specific pathogens is not directly measured. The use of indicators implies that water meeting the criteria may harbor disease-causing microorganisms and also that water considered unsafe may not carry any disease-causing microorganisms (e.g., Polo et al., 1998; Moore et al., 2001; Prieto et al., 2001; Schindler, 2001). This is an inherent limitation of using indicators as a test of water quality, in Massachusetts and elsewhere. However, it does need to be emphasized that a substantial body of scientific research generally supports the use of these indicators as described earlier in this document (Cabelli, 1983; USEPA, 1986).

The criteria developed for each indicator are set at a specific level of risk of an adverse health effect, in this case gastrointestinal illness, rather than at a no-risk level. The indicator limits recommended by USEPA for Enterococci in marine waters are associated with a risk level of 19 GI illnesses per 1,000 swimmers (USEPA, 1986). Therefore, levels of indicators considered in compliance by the Massachusetts and national requirements do not imply freedom from risk of adverse health effects for the total population at risk.

Using current indicators, it takes 24 hours to receive the results of a bathing beach water sample analysis (Wade et al., 2005). This delay can lead to the exposure of bathers to unsafe bacterial levels, as well as unnecessary closings (Wade et al., 2006) (e.g., beach closed on day of results, but by then the bacterial criteria may not be exceeded). This delay also makes it very difficult for investigators to track the contamination back to its sources, as it may dissipate before an investigation begins (Evaluation of New Methods, SCCWRP).

Development of a reliable rapid testing method continues. This new method would expedite obtaining results in the laboratory, in turn expediting the transmission of results to beach managers. Ideally, beach managers would be able to sample in the morning and receive results that same day, minimizing both exposures and unwarranted closures. A modified method of polymerase chain reaction (PCR), quantitative PCR (QPCR), detects in real time specific DNA sequences that originate from a particular organism, like fecal indicator bacteria such as Enterococcus (Haugland, 2005). QPCR can measure indicator bacteria levels in recreational water samples and give results in two hours or less (Wade et al., 2006). In freshwater studies, a significant correlation was shown between water quality as

measured by QPCR and swimming-related gastroenteritis (Wade et al., 2005). Because the rapid indicator method has been shown to accurately predict health effects in much less time, its use may reduce instances of illness and erroneous beach closings (Wade et al., 2006). More studies will need to be completed before QPCR can be considered to replace the current indicator methods. In 2009, USEPA conducted two epidemiologic studies using these QPCR methods. The results from these studies (which are not yet available), as well as others, will be used in the development of new test methods for recreational waters, which are due prior to the 2013 beach season.

Finally, acceptable levels of risk are typically determined by the incidence of GI symptoms among swimmers compared to that for non-swimmers. While research has shown that GI is the most sensitive outcome, it should be noted that pathogens found in marine and freshwater can cause other symptoms, including respiratory, dermatologic, ophthalmologic, and constitutional.

PART TWO: THE 2009 BATHING SEASON

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I. MDPH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In addition to its routine monitoring activities (outlined earlier), MDPH/BEH performed a variety of more specific activities, unique to the 2009 season.

A. Beaches Website/Data Management

Links to all MDPH/BEH standardized forms were checked and the forms were made available for download via the Publications and Reports hyperlink on the bathing beaches website. These forms included the Field Sampling Form, Posting Fax Form, Posting Sign Form, and the Tier III Sanitary Survey Form. Both local communities and laboratories were notified and given newly updated field data forms that made it easier for samplers to record conditions while in the field.

New forms were distributed to local boards of health in 2009

Guidance and training was provided to local boards of health, when necessary, to ensure quality assurance for data entry conducted outside of the contract laboratory program.

The beach program's database was again updated for the 2009 beach season. Beach locations were revised as sampling points were combined at continuous, uninterrupted beaches; non-swim beaches were identified and reassigned; and new swim beaches were identified. New information, such as waterbody information, latitude/longitude information, and potential pollution sources, for nearly 100 freshwater beaches were added to the database to provide greater clarity when analyzing bacterial results and also help identify potential exposure points when potential waterborne public health emergencies occur.

New information such as waterbody and pollution sources has been added to MDPH's database to help ensure quick responses to public health emergencies

B. Trainings

In April 2009, MDPH gave presentations to local health officials at five seminars held by the Massachusetts Health Officers Association (MHOA) and MDPH/BEH Community Sanitation Program at geographically diverse locations across the state. MDPH beaches staff presented information on quality control procedures to be used by local health officials while collecting and delivering beach water quality samples. Informational packets were provided containing the beach sampling field data forms, sanitary survey forms, posting forms, and fact sheets. MDPH staff also discussed MDPH's new algae protocol including testing methodology, algal concentration and public notification guidelines, and potential sources of algae within a watershed. Importantly, time was allocated for health agents to provide feedback and pose any questions they had regarding forms and procedures.

Five trainings for local health officials were conducted prior to the beach season in 2009.

Also, in April 2009, MDPH staff attended a Cape and Islands Health Agents Coalition meeting to discuss aspects of the MDPH's proposed amendments to the bathing beach regulations. MDPH staff also provided technical assistance and forms needed for the 2009 beach season.

In preparation for the 2009 beach season, MDPH staff personally communicated with bathing beach communities while collecting 2008 beach data. Local health officials were reminded of their responsibilities under the bathing beach regulations and provided with any technical assistance or forms needed. MDPH staff also discussed deficiencies in reporting and updated the internal database based on these conversations. These efforts help enhance reporting, as nearly all communities in the state now report beach testing results on a yearly basis.

C. Quality Assurance

Throughout the beach season MDPH staff conduct numerous inspections at selected beaches identified as having an exceedance to ensure proper signage is present. MDPH staff also assisted local health officials and laboratories in developing their weekly sampling schedules for the 2009 beach season. MDPH helped analyze the locations and logistics with local health officials, and staff standardized field forms with beach names and the weeks when they were to be sampled so that appropriate sampling schedules were maintained (either weekly, bi-weekly or monthly).

MDPH staff conducted numerous site visits to ensure proper public notification of bacterial contamination.

D. Laboratory Program

Since 2003, MDPH/BEH has supported local marine communities for routine monitoring through the services of contract laboratories funded by MDPH. This support continued in 2009. The laboratories funded by MDPH/BEH (Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment Water Quality Testing Laboratory, Town of Chatham Department of Health and Environment Water Quality Laboratory, G & L Laboratories, Inc., New Bedford Health Department Laboratory, and Wampanoag Environmental Laboratory) analyzed 4,629 marine beach samples from 54 marine beach communities during the 2009 beach season.

Laboratory contracts were renewed in 2009 and 54 of the 60 marine communities utilized these services.

Laboratories fulfilled their contract requirements by promptly entering sampling data and laboratory results into the MDPH/BEH public notification website as results became available. Beach postings were automatically generated by the website when submitted samples exceeded acceptable water quality standards. Display of these postings on the public pages occurs twice per day, at 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM.

E. Sanitary Surveys

MDPH/BEH staff, upon request, provided outreach and technical assistance to communities with Tier Three eligible beaches. (Note: Beaches are eligible for Tier Three status if, for at least the two years previous, they have complete weekly sampling data and have not had any exceedances.) In 2009, the Town of Essex requested MDPH/BEH to conduct a sanitary survey at Clammer's Beach. Based on the sanitary survey conducted by MDPH staff, this beach was granted a sampling variance by the local board of health.

The goal of MDPH/BEH's Public Health-Based Beach Evaluation, Classification, and Tiered Monitoring Plan is to ultimately direct water quality

monitoring resources to beaches identified as those in greatest need of remediation of pollution problems. For example, in 2009, MDPH/BEH conducted 25 in-depth sanitary surveys at marine beaches in Massachusetts that have a history of single sample exceedances. These beaches were assessed for bacterial contamination through targeted monitoring during dry and wet weather. MDPH/BEH staff also employed optical brightener testing at several beaches to test for human bacterial inputs. These optical brightener tests look for brighteners that are added to laundry detergents to make clothing appear cleaner. If these brighteners are found emanating from a stormwater pipe then human bacterial inputs are likely. MDPH/BEH also utilized sand testing to help identify whether bacteria associated with the sand was contributing to beach closures. For these tests, disinfected water was added to sand from the beach, mixed and then analyzed to determine if the sand added bacteria to the previously disinfected water. Analysis of the data from these surveys is on-going.

Twenty-five sanitary surveys were conducted by MDPH to help identify bacterial pollution sources at marine beaches.

F. Public Health Emergency Response

During the 2009 season, MDPH/BEH responded to a variety of beach water quality concerns. Algae blooms were reported at 19 lakes and ponds throughout Massachusetts and MDPH/BEH staff surveyed and sampled most of these locations for the presence of algae and their related toxins. MDPH/BEH then worked with local health officials to ensure that the public was aware of potential health concerns related to algae blooms. MDPH/BEH distributed fact sheets to local boards of health and conducted on-site assessments of algae blooms at 17 of the 19 lakes and ponds.

In late August 2009, an outbreak of *Shigella sonnei* occurred among visitors at Shannon Beach Recreational Area, located within MDCR's Mystic River Reservation in Middlesex County. Based on an epidemiologic investigation conducted by the MDPH's Bureau of Infectious Disease Services (BIDS), thirty confirmed cases and thirty-seven additional probable cases of *Shigella sonnei* infections were associated with some type of exposure at the recreational facility. In response, beach water and sand samples were collected from the beach area and the entire recreational area was inspected. Inspections revealed poorly maintained restroom and changing facilities, with no hand washing soap or towels provided. The beach sand was tested for *Shigella sonnei* and the results were negative. Although the actual source of *Shigella sonnei* was unknown, the unsanitary conditions in the bathroom and on-going case identification led MDPH to recommend that MDCR temporarily close the recreational facilities at the Mystic River Reservation on August 22, 2009. Intensive disinfection of bathrooms and playground equipment areas occurred in September and was followed by reopening all areas of the reservation except the beach and bathrooms. Given that *Shigella sonnei* will die-off over the winter, the beach will reopen for the 2010 beach season. *Shigella sonnei* is a reportable condition in Massachusetts so on-going surveillance will inform any future communicable disease concerns that may be associated with this recreational area.

II. MONITORING

A. Results

During the 2009 bathing season, 219 of 229 communities in Massachusetts with public or semi-public, marine or freshwater beaches sent water quality data to MDPH/BEH. The ten communities that did not submit data, had all closed their beaches for the 2009 beach season, and hence no beach water quality data were collected in 2009. These beaches were closed mainly due to lack of use and resources (e.g. staff to maintain and collect samples or money to conduct required sampling).

100% of communities with open beaches reported data to MDPH in 2009.

In total, MDPH received water quality data collected from 604 marine and 573 freshwater sampling locations at 530 marine and 531 freshwater beaches respectively. Due to the length of some beaches in Massachusetts, multiple sampling locations are necessary to distinguish specific areas of water quality. For the purposes of this report, a sample location is considered a single beach. In total, MDPH/BEH received results for 15,784 water samples from marine and freshwater beaches collected during the 2009 beach season. There are 33 communities that have only marine bathing beaches, 169 communities that have only freshwater beaches, and 27 that have both marine and freshwater bathing beaches within their communities (Table 1).

MDPH received data for 1,100 sampling locations at over 1,000 marine and freshwater beaches in 2009.

1. MARINE BEACHES

During the 2009 bathing season, all of the 60 Massachusetts coastal communities with known public or semi-public marine bathing beaches submitted beach monitoring data to MDPH/BEH. These communities accounted for 604 sampling locations at 530 public or semi-public marine bathing beaches.

There are 60 communities with marine beaches in Massachusetts.

A total of 8,119 water samples were collected from marine public and semi-public beaches and reported to MDPH/BEH during the 2009 bathing beach season (Table 2). Bather density data were collected as part of routine sampling. Massachusetts regulations require samples to be taken within the area of greatest bather density (105 CMR 445.000). GPS surveys of marine beaches completed by MDPH/BEH in 2003 and subsequent observations by MDPH/BEH beach inspectors confirm that samples are being taken within the areas that typically receive the highest use (greatest bather density) such as areas near main entrances and/or areas closest to parking lots. Due to the time needed to collect and analyze samples, a majority of the samples were collected at times when bather density consisted of ten or fewer individuals (Table 3). Most samples were collected before noon, when the bather load is generally low even in high-use areas.

Over 8,100 samples were collected at marine beaches in 2009 to evaluate bacterial water quality.

With the passage of the Massachusetts Beaches Act in 2000, the state adopted the USEPA recommended Enterococci as the standard indicator for water quality monitoring at marine beaches. Since the institution of the MDPH/BEH contract laboratories and website, boards of health in

100% of the samples collected were analyzed with the mandated indicator method.

Massachusetts marine communities have all adopted the use of Enterococci as an indicator organism. Enterococci were the indicator used for all water samples taken at marine beaches in 2009. The use of MDPH/BEH contracted laboratories for analyzing public marine beach water samples has played a major role in achieving uniform compliance with the MDPH/BEH regulation for marine beaches.

Eighty-four percent of the marine beaches were tested daily or weekly (in most cases, the minimum requirement is weekly sampling) (Table 4). Most of the remaining marine beaches were permitted to sample less frequently because of Tier Three status. However, there was one beach that was not tested with the required frequency. This community has been contacted and reminded of the regulatory requirements for frequency of testing.

Nearly 100% of all marine beaches were tested as required in 2009.

MDPH/BEH contract laboratories performed the majority of analyses at marine beaches during 2009. Local health departments, independent laboratories, the National Park Service, and MDCR performed the remainder of the marine beach water analyses. Two marine beach communities opted not to use MDPH/BEH contracted laboratories in 2009. These communities were Kingston and Mattapoisett, who faxed their data to MDPH beach inspectors. These data were subsequently entered directly onto the beaches website for prompt public notification.

7.0% of all samples collected exceeded the bacterial standard.

The total number of marine beach postings (i.e., verification to MDPH/BEH that a sign was posted at the beach) received in 2009 was 597 (Table 5), an increase from the 466 postings received in 2008. The number of postings in 2009 (597) was greater than the total number of single sample exceedances (571). This could be due to a variety of factors, such as increased precautionary postings due to rainfall. These data are discussed further in the Analysis of Results section. The percentage of exceedances versus total number of samples collected was 7.0% in 2009 (Table 6). Of the 604 public or semi-public marine beach locations, 228 (38%) incurred at least one bacterial exceedance (Table 7).

The number of marine beach postings in 2009 was 597.

228 marine beaches had at least one exceedance.

Total rainfall amounts in most regions in Massachusetts were higher during the 2009 season compared to 2008 (Tables 8 through 11). The Boston area received 13.36 inches of rain in the 2009 beach season (i.e., June through August); this was 38% more than the 9.65 inches of rain normally received in those months. The southeast region (Chatham) received a total of 13.82 inches of rain in the 2009 season; this was 36% more than the 10.15 inches normally received in that region and is more than double the amount that had fallen during the 2008 season.

Total rainfall in Boston and Chatham was above normal during the 2009 beach season.

As part of routine sampling, environmental observations should be recorded on a field data form and reported to MDPH/BEH. Samplers have the option of recording potential sources of pollution, as well as noting when no sources are observed. In 2009, about 59% of field data forms accompanying marine samples had information whether pollution sources were or were not observed. Twenty-five percent of these forms with information (n=2,017) recorded a potential transient pollution source, such as birds, dogs, algae, trash, sludge deposits, waste solids, and oils. Of the 2,017 samples that had

transient pollution sources noted, 141 (7.0%) of the associated analytical results exceeded the bacterial standard (Table 12). No potential source was noted for the remaining 2,753 samples with field data form information. Of these samples, 137 (5.0%) exceeded the bacterial standard. The data suggest that potential bacterial sources at the time of sampling presents a higher risk of bacterial exceedances. There were a large number of samples (n=3,349) where information on pollution sources (or lack thereof) was not completed on field data forms. For these samples, 8.7% exceeded the bacterial standard. MDPH will target communities that did not complete this section of the field form to stress the need to record these potential sources in the future.

2. FRESHWATER BEACHES

During the 2009 bathing season, 181 of the 196 Massachusetts communities with known public or semi-public freshwater bathing beaches submitted beach monitoring data to MDPH/BEH. The fifteen communities that did not report freshwater data for 2009 (Brimfield, Brookfield, Dartmouth, Duxbury, Merrimac, New Bedford, New Marlborough, Norton, Rockland, Sheffield, Shirley, Westport, Weymouth, Windsor, and Worthington) did not open any freshwater beach in their communities. The 181 communities contain 573 public or semi-public freshwater bathing beaches and collected a total of 7,684 freshwater samples that were reported to MDPH/BEH for the 2009 bathing beach season (Table 2).

7,684 samples were collected at Massachusetts freshwater beaches in 2009.

For bather density (Table 3), the data are similar to those for marine beaches, with a high percentage (83%) indicating low bather density (0-10 bathers on the beach) during sampling. As discussed previously, most samples are collected during non-peak bathing hours, usually between 8 AM and 12 PM. Samples at beaches are often taken in the morning to allow adequate time for delivery to and analysis at the laboratory.

Routine samples are most often collected in the morning to allow time for laboratory delivery.

In 2009, local health officials used the approved indicator organism (either *E. coli* or Enterococci) at 100% of freshwater beaches in Massachusetts, with the majority of beaches using the *E. coli* indicator. Approximately 96% of public and semi-public freshwater beaches in Massachusetts were tested with the minimum required weekly frequency in 2009 (Table 4). Six freshwater beaches have Tier Three status and sample every other week, as approved by MDPH and the local board of health. Three percent of freshwater beaches (n = 16) either did not sample as required or did not submit data to MDPH/BEH detailing all sampling conducted for the season. As noted, communities that did not test all their beaches with the required frequency have been contacted to review regulatory requirements. Independent laboratories were responsible for a majority of samples analyzed from freshwater beaches. Local health departments and MDCR performed the remainder of the analyses.

96% of freshwater beaches were tested weekly.

222 bacterial exceedances were reported in 2009.

2.9% of bacterial water quality samples exceeded the freshwater standard.

The total number of freshwater beach exceedances detected in 2009 was 222 (Table 5). This was a decrease from the number of exceedances of the freshwater water quality standards (235 cfu/100 ml *E. coli* and 61 cfu/100 ml

Enterococci) in 2008 (n=325 (4.1%)) (Table 6). These data are discussed further in the Analysis of Results section.

About 64% of all samples were accompanied by field data forms that had no information on whether pollution sources were or were not observed. Five percent of these forms with information (n=1,121) recorded transient pollution source(s) (Table 12) reported on the field data form, and 61 (5.4%) of these samples exceeded the bacterial standard. For the 2,778 samples with no information on the field data form, 94 (3.4%) exceeded the bacterial standard. Of the 3,766 samples for which the absence of any information on pollution source or lack thereof was not provided on the field data form, 67 (1.8%) exceeded the bacterial standard.

Samples that noted potential pollution sources at the beach at the time of sampling had a significantly higher rate of exceedance compared to beaches where no potential sources were noted.

B. Analysis of Results

In 2009, all marine and freshwater communities with open beaches reported bathing beach water quality data to MDPH/BEH, up from 98% of marine communities and 83% of freshwater communities reporting in 2001. A significant improvement, particularly for marine beaches, is the public notification figures and increased compliance in reporting to MDPH/BEH of any posting within 24 hours. In 2001, MDPH/BEH received postings for approximately 35% of all exceedances at marine bathing beaches. In 2009, MDPH/BEH received the required notification for all but two postings for marine beaches (a total of 597 postings for marine waters or 99.6%). It should be noted that a posting may not always occur when there is an exceedance. For example, if a beach is already posted because of a prior single sample or geometric mean exceedance and a follow-up sample shows a continued exceedance, an additional posting notification to MDPH/BEH is not required for the follow-up exceedance result. Therefore a single beach posting could cover several exceedances. Additionally, a posting notification is not required if a second sample is taken within 24 hours of the original exceedance and the resample results do not exceed the standard. It should also be noted that local boards of health may preemptively post beaches without a test result showing bacterial exceedance, and instances of this are included in the total number of postings. The current rate of postings received versus exceedances has improved greatly over the past few years.

Posting notifications were not received by MDPH/BEH for 52 exceedances at freshwater beaches in 2009, which is an improvement over 2008, when there were 61 exceedances without posting notifications. While the number of exceedances without posting notification improved in 2009, there were 105 fewer exceedances in 2009 versus 2008. In contrast to marine beaches, where MDPH/BEH's beaches website allows near real-time monitoring by MDPH of bacterial results, MDPH receives the majority of freshwater data after October 31 each year (the Massachusetts Beach Act requires submittal of data by October 31). Therefore, MDPH staff are not able to remind local health departments to submit the required posting notifications at the time of the exceedances, which may reduce the number

In 2009, 140 exceedances had corresponding posting notifications at freshwater beaches.

of posting notifications received in a given year. These results highlight the need for continued outreach to health departments of freshwater communities on beach water quality regulatory requirements. Efforts were made by MDPH/BEH staff to obtain posting information by directly contacting communities both during and after the beach season to explain the regulations and by providing standardized reporting forms; both the forms and regulations were made available for download from the MDPH/BEH website. MDPH/BEH will target local health officials in communities with freshwater beaches to provide technical assistance and improve compliance with the posting requirements before the 2010 beach season.

Completeness of the field data forms filled out by samplers has also increased over the years. While there are still areas for improvement, such as actively reporting the presence or absence of environmental pollution sources, Massachusetts local health officials have for the most part adhered to MDPH/BEH's field forms. This can be seen in the wide range of potential sources of pollution noted on the field forms submitted in 2009. Prior to 2003, most noted potential sources of pollution were fairly general (i.e., outflow pipes, wildlife, and boats). Starting in 2004 and continuing in the 2009 bathing beach season, more communities began to document incidents of algae and wrack build-up on beaches and the presence of trash, birds, dogs, waste solids and fish die-offs. These notations become an important factor when the communities or MDPH/BEH need to identify possible reasons for continuously elevated bacterial levels at a particular beach that may increase potential health risks and to develop strategies to reduce these sources.

Environmental pollution sources are being recorded more often.

Observations made by samplers at freshwater beaches may help to explain some contributing factors to elevated indicator levels (Table 12). Of freshwater beaches that had a recorded pollution source, 5.4% exceeded public health standards, compared to 1.8% for those that actively noted an absence of observed sources. For marine beaches, the percentage of exceedances at beaches where a pollution source was noted (7.0%) was slightly higher than those where none were noted (5.0%). However, it should be noted that, overall, 41% of marine samples and 36% of freshwater samples were accompanied by a field data form that did not include any information on the presence or absence of pollution sources. Active notification on the presence or absence of pollution sources is an area that needs improvement in order to help in the formulation of mitigation strategies.

As shown in Table 6, from 2001 through 2009, 4.8% of all samples collected during the time period exceeded the marine Enterococcus standard. During the 2009 beach season, the rate of marine beach exceedances (7.0%) was higher than any other year since uniform reporting was initiated (2001). The lowest rate of exceedances occurred in 2002 (2.8%) and from 2003 through 2006, the percentages ranged from 4.2% to 4.8%. In 2007, the percent exceedances dropped to 3.3%, which likely related to the reduced rainfall that year. In 2008 and 2009, the exceedances were 5.7% and 7.0%

respectively. All marine communities that had at least one exceedance in 2009 appear in Figure 1.

As shown in Tables 8 through 11, the amount of rainfall was above normal in four areas around the state (Amherst, Ashburnham, Boston, and Chatham). It should be noted that these are only four data points for a large geographical area and therefore localized rainfall data could be different. The amount of rainfall was also elevated above the levels received in 2008 in all of the areas except Boston. There are more than 300 marine beaches on Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket (about 56% of all Massachusetts marine beaches) and therefore the additional rainfall in 2009 (reflected in the Chatham data) is likely an important reason for the increase in exceedances at marine beaches. Another factor may be the implementation of the Tiered Monitoring Plan. For the last several years, MDPH/BEH has been working with local boards of health to reduce sampling at beaches where there is a low risk for bacterial exceedances allowing for more intense focus on higher risk beaches. As specified previously, there are over 90 marine beaches with Tier 3 status which allows reduced sampling. Meanwhile, sampling at beaches with a higher risk of exceedances (Tier 1 and Tier 2) has remained relatively consistent. In 2006, 584 of the 602 beaches sampled at least weekly. While in 2009, 493 of the 605 marine beaches were sampled weekly, and 97 Tier 3 beaches were sampled bi-weekly and monthly. Thus in 2009, 94.8% of the samples came from Tier 1 and Tier 2 beaches, while in 2006 , 99.8% came from Tier 1 and Tier 2 beaches. Therefore, it is likely there would be a higher percentage of bacterial exceedances when Tier 1 and Tier 2 beaches are sampled proportionally more compared to previous years. A complete listing of marine beaches sampled during the 2009 beach season, their exceedances, and postings can be found in Table 13.

Overall 2.9% of the samples collected at freshwater beaches during 2009 exceeded bacterial standards (Table 6). This percentage of exceedances was lower than the historical average (4.1%) and is similar to the lowest percentage observed between 2001 and 2009 (3.0% in 2007). It is uinclear why the percentage of exceedances was low, compared to historical data, despite higher than normal rainfall, which is a major predictor of bacterial exceedances. All communities that experienced at least one freshwater exceedance in 2009 can be seen in Figure 2. A complete listing of freshwater beaches sampled during the 2009 beach season, their exceedances, and postings can be found in Table 14.

Figures 3 and 4 show the historical relationship between exceedances at marine and freshwater beaches and the total amount of rainfall between June and August. For both marine and freshwater beaches, exceedances generally rise and fall with rainfall amounts, with some exceptions. For marine beaches, when rainfall decreased in 2005 and then increased in 2006, the percentage of exceedances remained similar across both years. For freshwater beaches, when rainfall increased in 2006 and 2009, the percentage of exceedances decreased.

Rainfall totals were significantly elevated above normal.

Stormwater runoff associated with wet weather has been shown to be a significant source of sewage contamination at bathing beaches (Cabelli et al, 1982; Cabelli, 1989; Pruss, 1998; Gerba, 2000; Schindler, 2001). Sources of runoff to surface waters include direct runoff from paved surfaces such as roads and boat ramps, runoff channeled through drainpipes, natural and man-made swales, and increased flow of freshwater streams. These sources can carry bacteria present over a wide area directly to a beach. Runoff is positively related to land-use density (houses per unit area) of the area drained (MDEP and MCZM, 1997). Therefore, exceedances are likely to be more numerous at beaches in urban areas (i.e. Boston Harbor) than beaches in rural areas (i.e. Nantucket). As shown in Figures 5 through 10 the majority of beaches that had multiple bacterial exceedances were in areas with high population densities. It should be noted that the population data used in these figures is based on year-round populations and many communities along the coast see large increases in population during the summer. Many Massachusetts communities have addressed combined sewer overflows and stormwater runoff problems in response to USEPA's stormwater regulations. Water quality improvements are expected to continue into the future with the assistance of better monitoring and reporting as well as new infrastructure projects.

Bacterial exceedances are closely tied to rain events.

Table 3 and Figure 11 show that the total number of exceedances statewide is significantly higher within 24 hours of a rain event. These rain data are based on information recorded on the field data form. For marine beaches, all 569 exceedances had corresponding rain event information, while for freshwater beaches rain event data were recorded for 135 of the 222 bacterial exceedances in 2009. Seventy-nine percent of marine beach exceedances and nearly 44% of freshwater exceedances occurred within 24 hours of a rain event. Figure 11 shows the exponential drop-off in the number of exceedances as the time from rainfall increases.

Greater bather use at a beach can increase bacterial levels.

The bather load at a particular beach can affect water quality as well because humans are also sources of fecal pollution. The greater the bather density at a beach, the greater the likelihood that human sources are contributing to higher Enterococci levels. However, as in previous years, more than three-quarters of the marine beach samples (90%) and freshwater beach samples (83%) that reported bather density indicated low bather density (0-10 bathers on the beach) during sampling. This can be attributed largely to samples being taken during off-peak hours for swimming. Samples are primarily collected before 12:00 PM so that laboratories can begin the analysis before the close of business and before the six hour holding time expires. Thus, it is difficult to comprehensively evaluate the effect of bather density on beach water quality.

Studies have shown spring tides to increase bacterial levels.

Another potential influence on bacteria levels in bathing waters may be spring tides. These strong tides, which take place year-round, occur when the earth, moon, and sun are in line and the gravitational forces of both the moon and sun contribute to the larger than normal tides. Spring tides occur during full and new moons, and recent attention has been focused on them with respect to water quality and beaches. In a study released by the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, a government agency

that focuses on marine environmental research, researchers found beaches twice as likely to be out of compliance with water quality standards during spring tides (Boehm, A. B. and S.B. Weisberg, 2005). This study concluded bacteria levels may be higher during spring-ebb tides (receding tides) compared to all other tidal conditions and that Enterococci densities were found at beaches during tidal events with no obvious point source. The study suggested that tidally forced sources of Enterococci may be occurring at beaches. Potential sources for these Enterococci could include beach sands and sediments, decaying plant material, and polluted groundwater. All of these sources are known to harbor fecal indicator bacteria and have the potential to become 'activated' with the mass and momentum of a spring tide (i.e., disturbing bacteria that would have otherwise lain dormant).

Decaying plant material has been shown to incubate bacteria and may release bacteria to the water at high tide.

The decaying plant material, or wrack line, at a beach may also be an incubator for bacteria, potentially increasing bacterial counts even outside spring tides. In addition, it has been suggested that wrack is often the subject of scavenging by wildlife and pets, which may defecate in it, further increasing its contribution to bacterial contamination (Heufelder 1988). Wrack also keeps the soil surfaces it covers in a dark, wet environment, which is conducive to bacterial growth. Researchers have found that survival of fecal coliform and Enterococcus bacteria was far greater in salt water when organic debris (i.e., wrack) were present (Martin and Gruber 2005). Furthermore, they concluded that tidal flushing of wrack during high tide could easily transport elevated bacterial densities into the marine environment, thus potentially degrading the surrounding waters (Martin and Gruber 2005).

Illicit boat waste can be a major source of beach closures.

Most of the Massachusetts coast line is now a no-discharge zone.

Other potential sources of bacteria, which are difficult to directly measure through routine beach water sampling, have the ability to influence overall water quality. At marine beaches, illicit discharges of human waste from boats may cause significant degradation of water quality where there is significant boating activity. It is generally believed that the number of illicit discharges from boats is proportional to the difficulty posed in the disposal of the wastewater; therefore there has been significant effort by many coastal communities to increase the number of locations where boat waste can safely be discharged. USEPA has also worked with state and local officials to designate all marine waters within three miles of the Massachusetts coast as a no-discharge zone and has set up a series of fines for persons who do discharge illegally. In January 2010, the United States Coast Guard and the United States Attorney's Office accepted a guilty plea from a boat operator for illegally dumping wastewater on two occasions in the North Shore area. The operator is suspected of conducting illicit discharges over a sixteen year period primarily in the waters off Salem, Marblehead, Beverly, and the Manchester-by-the-Sea (Olson 2010).

Sediments may also be a bacterial incubator and contribute to higher bacterial results.

Additionally, sediments may act as a sink for fecal indicators at both fresh and marine beaches. These sediments may be disturbed by tides, human activities, or stormwater runoff and potentially increase bacterial contamination.

III. FUTURE PLANS

A. Direct Web-Based Reporting

In 2010, MDPH/BEH contract laboratories, local boards of health, and others will continue to perform data entry to the electronic, web-based public notification website. MDPH/BEH will be working with contract laboratories and other data reporters to ensure that field data are accurately recorded via the web-based reporting system. Important information regarding recent rainfall data and the presence of transient pollution sources will be targeted. As in previous years, a history of postings will be maintained on the website to facilitate analysis of the data. This will provide more accurate recordkeeping so that trends can be analyzed in future annual reports.

B. Training and Community Outreach

MDPH conducted four trainings in the spring of 2010 for local health officials.

In the spring of 2010, MDPH/BEH worked in collaboration with the MDPH/BEH Community Sanitation Program and the Massachusetts Health Officers Association to provide five separate training events for local boards of health in four different regions of the state. These trainings focused on reviewing changes to the beach regulations, including permitting, signage placement, and tiered monitoring, and also provided information on harmful algae blooms. MDPH/BEH will continue to offer sampling training and provide additional technical assistance to freshwater and marine communities where needed. MDPH/BEH will also provide assistance on the use of the MDPH posting form and the field data forms that are required to be completed each time a sample is taken.

C. Laboratory Audits

During the 2010 beach season, MDPH plans to conduct laboratory audits at all five contract laboratories to determine compliance with the Bathing Beaches Project QAPP. The audit will include an examination of the facilities, equipment, sample log-in and tracking forms, methodology employed, and quality assurance/quality control procedures. These on-site evaluations will include a microbial laboratory check-list that had been adapted by MDPH from certification forms used by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (MDEP) Wall Experiment Station in Lawrence, MA.

D. Sanitary Surveys

Additional sanitary surveys will be conducted to further the goals of the Tiered Monitoring Plan in 2010.

MDPH/BEH will continue to facilitate sanitary surveys in support of the Tiered Monitoring Plan and the variance process during 2010. When the Tiered Monitoring Plan is adopted at specific beaches, a "high" priority beach will receive the most frequent water quality sampling and analysis. Such a beach might be one with high bather volume, high frequency or percentage of exceedances, problematic sources of pollution, or a combination of these factors. A "medium" priority beach will be sampled once per week and will still be required to meet water quality standards. Beaches that are tiered "medium" can have any of the factors listed for

“high” priority beaches but with less frequency or intensity of any of the three criteria. A “low” priority beach is one that is relatively pristine. Low-priority beaches are eligible for less frequent testing, as infrequently as every 30 days under 105 CMR 445.000, if the local health department receives a testing variance. This categorization will assist MDPH/BEH in working with local health departments in 2010 to conduct sanitary surveys that will support the Tiered Monitoring Plan. Data from the 2008 and 2009 beach seasons will be incorporated into the existing Tiered Monitoring Plan to update the published classifications. These efforts will allow MDPH/BEH and marine communities to focus on determining and alleviating pollution sources at problematic beaches, and also allowing MDPH/BEH to reduce unnecessary sampling at low-priority beaches through the variance process. MDPH/BEH will be conducting many sanitary surveys at public marine beaches in support of these efforts.

Finally, MDPH plans to provide its sanitary surveys of 25 marine beaches, which have had a history of Enterococcus counts in excess of state health standards to local health officials. The surveys may assist communities in identifying potential sources of pollution and make recommendations in reducing the number of closures at these highly visible and popular beaches. Identifying transport mechanisms for bacteria at local beaches and recommending remedial actions allows towns to be better equipped at reducing the amount of beach closure days they encounter in future seasons.

IV. SUMMARY

This report summarizes beach monitoring and testing data from Massachusetts public and semi-public marine and freshwater bathing beaches in the 2009 season. In total, all 214 communities with operating bathing beaches reported 15,784 water samples collected at over 1,100 beaches. The beach testing results from the 2009 season show higher percentages of exceedances at marine beaches than the 2008 beach season's averages and historical averages. This is likely due to increased rainfall throughout the region during the 2009 beach season. Overall water quality data at freshwater beaches show a lower percentage of exceedances in 2009. It is unclear why the exceedances were lower in a year with higher rainfall. Massachusetts marine communities are nearly in full compliance with the regulations with the exception of some semi-public beaches missing sampling rounds and posting notifications. This illustrates in part the success of the electronic reporting requirement through the MDPH/BEH contract laboratory system for marine beaches. This requirement has also facilitated improved compliance with the regulations by BOHs in other areas besides sample reporting. For example, 100% of the marine beach samples were tested for the correct indicator required by regulation. MDPH/BEH also achieved nearly full compliance with the posting regulation in marine communities. Massachusetts freshwater communities continue to increase their usage of the required field data form, including identifying potential environmental pollution sources.

Over 15,000 samples were collected at 1,000 beaches in 2009.

Increases in exceedances at marine beaches were likely related to increased rainfall that occurred during the 2009 beach season.

MDPH/BEH continues to provide training and information to local communities in an effort to improve compliance with the regulations. MDPH/BEH also continues to make improvements to its public notification website to make sure that information is accessible to the public as soon as it becomes available. In addition, MDPH/BEH is continuing to focus efforts on the most vulnerable beaches through its Tiered Monitoring Plan and sanitary surveys.

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This study would not have been possible without the efforts, cooperation, and collaboration of the local health departments in Massachusetts (including Barnstable County). MDPH/BEH also received much assistance from many local, regional, and state organizations, including MDCR, in ensuring that bathing beaches are tested and that their data is forwarded to MDPH/BEH in a timely fashion. Finally, we are grateful to the USEPA for providing financial support. USEPA BEACH Grant funds have helped support efforts in areas related to public marine beach data reporting and notification, including the public notification website, laboratory analysis of routine monitoring samples, the Flagship Beach project, training, and enforcement activities.

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TABLES

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Table 1

MA Beaches (2009): All communities grouped by the presence or absence of marine and/or freshwater public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Type of community	#	%
Marine beach only	33	9.4%
Freshwater beach only	169	48.1%
Marine and freshwater beaches	27	7.7%
No beaches	122	34.8%
Total	351	100%

Table 2

MA Beaches (2009): Watyer quality testing at marine and freshwater public and semi-public bathing beaches, grouped by community, beach, and sample.

	# communities containing	# communities providing data for	# tested[1]	# samples collected from
Marine Beaches	60	60	604	8,119
Freshwater Beaches	196	181	573	7,684
		Total:	1,177	15,803

1. Note that this table does not include the number of beaches *not* tested, as data were not compiled to accurately determine this number.

Table 3

MA Beaches (2009): Bather density at marine and freshwater public and semi-public bathing beaches at times when samples were taken.

Marine beaches

Bather Density (# people)	# Samples	%
0-10	7,289	89.8%
10-20	287	3.5%
20-50	117	1.4%
>50	63	0.8%
Not indicated	363	4.5%
Total	8,119	100.0%

Freshwater beaches

Bather Density (# people)	# Samples	%
0-10	6,335	82.4%
10-20	290	3.8%
20-50	150	2.0%
>50	34	0.4%
Not indicated	875	11.4%
Total	7,684	100.0%

Table 4

MA Beaches (2009): Frequency of testing beaches, grouped by beach and frequency

Marine Beaches

Test frequency	# Beaches	%
Daily	12	2.0%
Weekly	495	81.8%
Monthly	85	14.0%
Biweekly	12	2.0%
Not monitored	1	0.2%
Total	605	100.0%

Freshwater Beaches

Test frequency	# Beaches	%
Weekly	551	96.2%
Monthly	1	0.2%
Biweekly	11	1.9%
Twice per week	4	0.7%
Unknown	3	0.5%
One time	3	0.5%
Total	573	100.0%

Table 5

MA Beaches (2009): Number of exceedances and postings at marine and freshwater public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Marine beaches

Exceedances, Total (Enterococcus)	571
Postings, Total[1]	597
Postings, Enterococcus	413
Postings, Geomean	25
Postings, Preemptive Rainfall	67
Postings, Preemptive - Other	92

Freshwater beaches

Exceedances, Total	222
Exceedances, Enterococcus	86
Exceedances, E. Coli	136
Postings, Total[1]	106
Postings, Enterococcus	36
Postings, E. Coli	64
Postings, Preemptive	2
Postings, Algae	4

1. Total postings does not necessarily equal total exceedances because some tests that resulted in exceedances may have occurred while the beach was closed, or beach closings covered multiple parts of a beach that were counted as separate beaches in this report.

Table 6

MA Beaches (2009): Number of samples in which the measured Enterococcus concentration (marine beaches) or Enterococcus or *E.coli* concentration (freshwater beaches) exceeded the respective water quality criterion at public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Year	Marine Beaches			Freshwater Beaches		
	Exceedances[1]	Total Samples Analyzed	%	Exceedances[1]	Total Samples Analyzed	%
2001	444	7200	6.2%	336	5651	5.9%
2002	185	6686	2.8%	264	6473	4.1%
2003	320	7439	4.3%	333	6480	5.1%
2004	337	7873	4.3%	267	7313	3.7%
2005	368	8064	4.6%	286	7148	4.0%
2006	405	8367	4.8%	279	7438	3.8%
2007	253	7693	3.3%	236	7977	3.0%
2008	433	7639	5.7%	325	7834	4.1%
2009	571	8119	7.0%	222	7684	2.9%
Average	368	7676	4.8%	283	7111	4.1%

1. For marine beaches, Enterococcus is the indicator species. A sample is said to be in exceedance if the number of colony forming units (CFU) / 100 ml is greater than 104 for a single sample or greater than 35 for the average of 5 samples over a 40-day period. For freshwater beaches, either Enterococcus or *E. coli* can be used as indicator species. For Enterococcus, a sample is said to be in exceedance if the number of CFU / 100 ml is greater than 61 for a single sample or greater than 33 for the average of at least 5 samples over a 40-day period. For *E. coli*, a sample is said to be in exceedance if the number of CFU / 100 ml is greater than 235 for a single sample or greater than 126 for the average of at least 5 samples over a 40-day period.

Table 7

MA Beaches (2009): Number of beaches in which
at least one measured Enterococcus concentration (marine beaches)
or at least one Enterococcus or *E. coli* concentration (freshwater beaches)
exceeded the respective water quality criteria at public bathing beaches.

	# beaches with at least one exceedance	Total # beaches reporting	%
Marine	228	604	37.7%
Freshwater	116	573	20.2%

Table 8

MA Beaches (2001-2009): Rainfall during swimming season - Boston*

Boston

Year	Rainfall	June	July	August	Total
n/a	**Norm for month**	**3.22**	**3.06**	**3.37**	**9.65**
2001	**Total**	4.99	2.13	4.14	11.26
	Dev From Norm	+55%	-30%	+23%	+17%
2002	**Total**	4.78	1.42	2.13	8.33
	Dev From Norm	+48%	-54%	-37%	-14%
2003	**Total**	4.69	2.11	2.89	9.69
	Dev From Norm	+46%	-31%	-14%	<1%
2004	**Total**	1.95	3.87	4.38	10.20
	Dev From Norm	-39%	+26%	+30%	+6%
2005	**Total**	1.46	3.37	2.88	7.71
	Dev From Norm	-55%	+10%	-15%	-20%
2006	**Total**	10.09	3.58	3.20	16.87
	Dev From Norm	+213%	+17%	-5%	+75%
2007	**Total**	2.12	5.26	0.66	8.04
	Dev From Norm	-34%	+72%	-80%	-17%
2008	**Total**	3.46	6.00	4.47	13.93
	Dev From Norm	+7%	+96%	+33%	+44%
2009	**Total**	3.22	6.90	3.24	13.36
	Dev From Norm	0%	+125%	-4%	+38%

* obtained from the National Weather Service Forecast office, at http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/box/dailystns.shtml

Table 9

MA Beaches (2001-2009): Rainfall during swimming season - Chatham*

Chatham

Year	Rainfall	June	July	August	Total
n/a	**Norm for month**	**3.44**	**3.38**	**3.33**	**10.15**
2001	**Total**	3.00	3.35	5.36	11.71
	Dev From Norm	-13%	-1%	+61%	+15%
2002	**Total**	2.88	0.48	2.45	5.81
	Dev From Norm	-16%	-86%	-26%	-43%
2003	**Total**	5.07	1.78	3.46	10.31
	Dev From Norm	+47%	-47%	+4%	+2%
2004	**Total**	1.60	2.48	5.49	9.57
	Dev From Norm	-53%	-27%	+65%	-6%
2005	**Total**	1.61	3.37	2.99	7.97
	Dev From Norm	-53%	<1%	-10%	-21%
2006	**Total**	9.49	2.97	2.61	15.07
	Dev From Norm	+176%	-12%	-22%	+48%
2007	**Total**	1.38	2.80	0.35	4.53
	Dev From Norm	-60%	-17%	-89%	-55%
2008	**Total**	1.78	2.85	1.92	6.55
	Dev From Norm	-48%	-16%	-42%	-35%
2009	**Total**	3.55	6.13	4.14	13.82
	Dev From Norm	+3%	+81%	+24%	+36%

* obtained from the National Weather Service Forecast office, at http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/box/dailystns.shtml

Table 10

MA Beaches (2002-2009): Rainfall during swimming season - Amherst*

Amherst

Year	Rainfall	June	July	August	Total
n/a	**Norm for month**	**3.81**	**3.95**	**4.1**	**11.86**
2002	**Total**	4.80	2.08	3.41	10.29
	Dev From Norm	+26%	-47%	-17%	-13%
2003	**Total**	5.90	2.69	7.99	16.58
	Dev From Norm	+55%	-32%	+95%	+40%
2004	**Total**	2.91	3.89	3.77	10.57
	Dev From Norm	-24%	-2%	-8%	-11%
2005	**Total**	4.42	2.41	2.81	9.64
	Dev From Norm	+16%	-39%	-31%	-19%
2006	**Total**	6.39	2.83	3.31	12.53
	Dev From Norm	+68%	-28%	-19%	+6%
2007	**Total**	2.59	5.50	1.12	9.21
	Dev From Norm	-32%	+39%	-73%	-22%
2008	**Total**	6.92	8.20	2.37	17.49
	Dev From Norm	+82%	+108%	-42%	+47%
2009	**Total**	5.38	9.03	3.52	17.93
	Dev From Norm	+41%	+129%	-14%	+51%

* Data obtained from the National Climatic Data Center's
Preliminary Record of Climatological Observations, at
http://cdo.ncdc.noaa.gov/pls/plclimprod/poemain.cdobystn?dataset=DS3220&StnList=190120NNNNN

Table 11

MA Beaches (2002-2009): Rainfall during swimming season - Ashburnham*

Ashburnham

Year	Rainfall	June	July	August	Total
n/a	**Norm for month**	**4.06**	**4.05**	**4.28**	**12.39**
2002	**Total**	4.08	2.50	3.16	9.74
	Dev From Norm	<1%	-38%	-26%	-21%
2003	**Total**	4.46	1.10	5.74	11.30
	Dev From Norm	+10%	-73%	+34%	-9%
2004	**Total**	1.93	2.90	5.15	9.98
	Dev From Norm	-52%	-28%	+20%	-19%
2005	**Total**	4.43	5.07	3.37	12.87
	Dev From Norm	+9%	+25%	-21%	+4%
2006	**Total**	8.54	3.55	4.50	16.59
	Dev From Norm	+110%	-12%	+5%	+34%
2007	**Total**	3.76	6.23	1.32	11.31
	Dev From Norm	-7%	+54%	-69%	-9%
2008	**Total**	4.14	7.80	3.90	15.84
	Dev From Norm	+2%	+93%	-9%	+28%
2009	**Total**	7.20	7.03	3.66	17.89
	Dev From Norm	+77%	+74%	-14%	+44%

* Data obtained from the National Climatic Data Center's
Preliminary Record of Climatological Observations, at
http://cdo.ncdc.noaa.gov/pls/plclimprod/poemain.cdobystn?dataset=DS3220&StnList=190190NNNNN

Table 12

MA Beaches (2009): Number of exceedances for public and semi-public beaches which reported environmental sources of pollution.

Pollution Source?[1]	Marine beaches			Freshwater beaches		
	# Excee-dances	# Samples	%	# Excee-dances	# Samples	%
Yes	141	2,017	7.0%	61	1,121	5.4%
Unknown	293	3,349	8.7%	94	2,793	3.4%
No	137	2,753	5.0%	67	3,770	1.8%
Total	571	8,119	7.0%	222	7,684	2.9%

1 "Yes" indicates that a source was observed; "unknown" means that no information was recorded; "no" indicates that the field forms explicitly record an absence of pollution sources.

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Aquinnah	Lobsterville	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Aquinnah	Moshup Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	5				
Aquinnah	Philbin Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	1	300	300	1
Aquinnah	Red Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Barnstable	Bone Hill	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	2	242	400	1
Barnstable	Bridge Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Barnstable	Cordwood Road	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Barnstable	Cotuit Bay Shores Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	110	110	1
Barnstable	Covell's	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Barnstable	Craigville	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Barnstable	Craigville Beach Club	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Barnstable	Crocker's Neck	Sampling Point	Weekly	20	6	132	400	5
Barnstable	Cross Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	108	108	1
Barnstable	Dowses	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Barnstable	East (Town) Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Barnstable	Estey Avenue	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Barnstable	Fifth Ave (boat launch)	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Barnstable	Indian Trail	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	2	154	202	1
Barnstable	Kalmus Ocean	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Barnstable	Kalmus Yacht	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				1
Barnstable	Kennedy Memorial	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Barnstable	Keyes Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Barnstable	Little River Road	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Barnstable	Loops	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Barnstable	Millway	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	2	400	400	1
Barnstable	Oregon	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	114	114	1
Barnstable	Oyster Harbors Club	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Barnstable	Oyster Place	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Barnstable	Ropes	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	110	110	1
Barnstable	Sandy Neck	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	106	106	1
Barnstable	Scudder Lane	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	3	246	400	1
Barnstable	Seaside Park Improvement Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	400	400	1
Barnstable	Veterans	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				1
Barnstable	Wianno Avenue	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Barnstable	Wianno Club (Salt-107 Seaview)	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Beverly	Brackenbury	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	200	200	1
Beverly	Dane Street	Bathhouse	Weekly	15	4	175	24000	3
Beverly	Goat Hill	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Beverly	Independence Park	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	5	122	1900	4
Beverly	Lynch Park	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Beverly	Mingo	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	4	148	6500	5
Beverly	Obear Park	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Beverly	Rice	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Beverly	Sandy Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	4	134	703	3
Beverly	West	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Beverly	Woodbury	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	2	460	570	2
Boston	Carson Beach	at Bathhouse	Daily	82	11	109	1990	21
Boston	Carson Beach	at I St.	Daily	82	12	130	4160	16
Boston	City Point Beach	Sampling Point	Daily	82	5	120	677	7
Boston	Constitution	Middle	Daily	82	10	132	9210	11
Boston	Constitution	North site	Daily	81	13	110	6870	11
Boston	Constitution	Rec Center	Daily	82	8	200	515	11
Boston	Lovell's Island	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Boston	M Street Beach @ M Street	Sampling Point	Daily	82	2	122	660	5
Boston	Malibu	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	1	239	239	1
Boston	Pleasure Bay @ Broadway	Sampling Point	Weekly	18	1	254	254	2
Boston	Savin Hill	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	1	554	554	1
Boston	Spectacle Island	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Boston	Tenean	Sampling Point	Daily	84	16	108	3000	17
Bourne	Barlows Landing	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Bourne	Briarwood Marine and Science	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Bourne	Cataumet Harbor	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	400	400	1
Bourne	Cedar Point Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	400	400	
Bourne	Electric Avenue	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Bourne	Gray Gables	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	2	122	302	1
Bourne	Hideaway Village Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Bourne	Monument	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Bourne	Patiusset Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	3	108	400	3
Bourne	Pocasset Beach Improvement Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Bourne	Sagamore	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Bourne	Scraggy Neck Recreation Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Bourne	Tahanto Associates, Inc.	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Bourne	Wings Neck Trust Association (North Beach)	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Bourne	Wings Neck Trust Association (South Beach)	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Braintree	Smith Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	22	11	105	470	6
Brewster	Breakwater Landing	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	2	230	400	2
Brewster	Brewster Dunes	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Brewster	Cape Cod Sea Camps (Bay)	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Brewster	Crosby Landing	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	110	110	1
Brewster	Ellis Landing	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	400	400	1
Brewster	Ellis Landing Park Condominiums	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Brewster	Linnell Landing	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Brewster	Mants	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	400	400	1
Brewster	Ocean Edge	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Brewster	Paines Creek	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	400	400	1
Brewster	Pilgrim Pine Acres	Sampling Point	Weekly	8				
Brewster	Pinelands Park	Sampling Point	Weekly	4				
Brewster	Point of Rocks	Sampling Point	Monthly	5				
Brewster	Robbins Hill	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	400	400	1
Brewster	Sea Pines	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Brewster	Sunset Beach Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Brewster	Winslow Landing Road	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Chatham	Andrew Harding Lane Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Chatham	Bucks Creek	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				1
Chatham	Chatham Bars Inn	Sampling Point	Weekly	10	1	124	124	1
Chatham	Cockle Cove	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Chatham	Cockle Cove Creek	at Parking Lot	Weekly	10	7	178	782	1
Chatham	Cockle Cove Creek	at Ridgevale Bridge	Weekly	10	1	150	150	1
Chatham	Forest Street Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Chatham	Hardings	East parking lot	Weekly	11				
Chatham	Hardings	West parking lot	Weekly	11				
Chatham	Hawthorne	Sampling Point	Weekly	9				
Chatham	Jacknife Harbor	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Chatham	Lighthouse	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				2
Chatham	Oyster Pond	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Chatham	Pleasant Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Chatham	Ridgevale	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Chatham	Scatteree Town Landing	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Chilmark	Great Rock Bight	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Chilmark	Menemsha	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Chilmark	Ocean @ Chilmark Pond Preserve	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Chilmark	Ocean @ Lucy Vincent Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				
Chilmark	Ocean @ Squibnocket Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Chilmark	Pond @ Lucy Vincent Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Cohasset	Bassing's (Sailing Club)	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	2	120	173	2
Cohasset	Black Rock	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	3	132	5800	3
Cohasset	Sandy	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	4	183	1600	2
Cohasset	Sandy Cove	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	1	640	640	1
Cohasset	Yacht Club	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	1	148	148	1
Danvers	Sandy Beach	West	Weekly	12	2	134	150	1
Dartmouth	Anthony's	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	161	161	1
Dartmouth	Apponagansett Town Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Dartmouth	Bayview	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Dartmouth	Demarest Lloyd	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Dartmouth	Hidden Bay	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	3	156	274	3
Dartmouth	Jones Town Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Dartmouth	Moses Smith Creek	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Dartmouth	Nonquitt	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	128	128	1
Dartmouth	Oak Hill Shores	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	2	115	244	2
Dartmouth	Round Hill	Sampling Point	Biweekly	6				
Dartmouth	Salter's Point East	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Dartmouth	Salter's Point South	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	112	112	1
Dennis	Bayview	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Dennis	Chapin Memorial	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	1	110	110	1
Dennis	Cold Storage	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Dennis	Corporation	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	1	120	120	1
Dennis	Follins Pond	Sampling Point 2	Weekly	14				
Dennis	Glendon Road	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	112	112	1
Dennis	Haigis	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Dennis	Harborview	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Dennis	Howes Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	2	154	400	1
Dennis	Inman Road	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	120	120	1
Dennis	Mayflower	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Dennis	Raycroft	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Dennis	Sea Street (Dennisport)	Dennisport	Weekly	14				
Dennis	Sea Street (East Dennis)	East	Weekly	16	2	142	232	1
Dennis	South Village	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	160	160	1
Dennis	Sullivan (Depot St.)	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Dennis	Trotting Park	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	162	162	1
Dennis	West Dennis	Residential	Weekly	16				
Dennis	West Dennis	West	Weekly	16				
Dennis	West Dennis	West of snack bar	Weekly	16				
Duxbury	Duxbury Beach @ Bath House	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				1
Duxbury	Landing Road	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	4	120	595	3
Duxbury	Residents Beach (Duxbury Beach)	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	2	122	171	1
Duxbury	Shipyard Lane	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Duxbury	West End	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Eastham	Boat Meadow	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Eastham	Campground	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	320	320	1
Eastham	Coast Guard	Sampling Point 1	Weekly	9				
Eastham	Coast Guard	Sampling Point 2	Weekly	9				
Eastham	Cole Road	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	124	124	1
Eastham	Cook's Brook	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Eastham	Dyer Prince	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	2	130	400	2
Eastham	First Encounter	Beach	Weekly	14				
Eastham	First Encounter	Spit River	Weekly	14				
Eastham	Kingsbury	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Eastham	Nauset Light	Sampling Point 1	Weekly	9				

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Eastham	Nauset Light	Sampling Point 3	Weekly	9				
Eastham	S. Sunken Meadow	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Eastham	Silver Springs Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Eastham	Thumpertown	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Eastham	Town Cove	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Edgartown	Bend in the Road	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Edgartown	Chappy Beach Club	Sampling Point	Weekly	5				
Edgartown	Chappy Point Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Edgartown	East Beach (Chappy)	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Edgartown	Fuller Street	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Edgartown	Joseph Sylvia State Beach	big Bridge	Weekly	13				
Edgartown	Katama Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	150	150	
Edgartown	Norton Point Beach	East ocean	Monthly	7				
Edgartown	Ocean @ Edgartown Great Pond	Sampling Point	Monthly	5				
Edgartown	South Beach State Park	east	Monthly	4				1
Edgartown	South Beach State Park	middle	Weekly	13				1
Edgartown	South Beach State Park	west	Monthly	4				1
Edgartown	Wasque Swim Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Essex	Clammer's Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	7				
Essex	Front Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Fairhaven	Fort Phoenix	Sampling Point	Weekly	21	4	166	500	3
Fairhaven	Manhattan Avenue	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Fairhaven	Raymond Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	318	318	1
Fairhaven	Seaview	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	300	300	1
Fairhaven	West Island Causeway	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Fairhaven	West Island Town Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Falmouth	Acapesket Improvement Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Bikepath Beach (Trunk River)	East	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Bikepath Beach (Trunk River)	West	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Bowerman Beach Club	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Falmouth	Bristol	East	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Bristol	West	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Chapoquoit	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Chapoquoit Associates - Front Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Chapoquoit Associates - Little Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Falmouth Associates - 564 Surf Drive	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Falmouth Heights	East	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Falmouth Heights	West	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Falmouth Yacht Club	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Jetty Lane	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Little Island Beach Preserve	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Megansett	North	Weekly	14				

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Falmouth	Menauhant	East	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Menauhant	West	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Mill Road	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	New Silver (Silver Beach Improvement Association)	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Nobska Beach Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Old Silver 1	Central	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Old Silver 2	North	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Old Silver 2	South	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Old Silver Beach Estates Assoc.	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Quisset Beach Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Falmouth	Racing Beach Association	Whittemore Rd.	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Saconessett Hills Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Seacoast Shores Associates, Inc.	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Seacrest Resort	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Shorewood Beach Association	Beach 1	Weekly	14	3	106	392	2
Falmouth	Sippewissett Highlands Trust	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	138	138	1
Falmouth	Stoney Beach (MBL)	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Surf Drive	Surf Drive 1	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Surf Drive	Surf Drive East	Weekly	15	1	194	194	1
Falmouth	Surf Drive	Surf Drive Pool	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Wild Harbour Estates	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Falmouth	Wood Neck Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Falmouth	Wood Neck River	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Gloucester	Cressy's	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Gloucester	Good Harbor	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	109	109	
Gloucester	Good Harbor Creek	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Gloucester	Half Moon	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Gloucester	Niles	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Gloucester	Pavillion Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Gloucester	Plum Cove	Sampling Point	Weekly	10	1	122	122	
Gloucester	Wingearsheek	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Harwich	Allen Harbor	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Harwich	Atlantic Avenue	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Harwich	Bank Street - Bayview Rd	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Harwich	Brooks	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Harwich	Earle Road	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Harwich	Grey Neck	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Harwich	Merkel Beach (Snow Inn Road)	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Harwich	Neel Road	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Harwich	Old Mill Point Association	Left of jetty	Weekly	12				
Harwich	Old Mill Point Association	Right of jetty	Weekly	12				
Harwich	Pleasant Bay	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Harwich	Pleasant Road	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Harwich	Red River	East	Monthly	4				
Harwich	Red River	Middle	Weekly	15	1	116	116	1
Harwich	Red River	West	Weekly	15	1	154	154	1
Harwich	Seabreeze	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Harwich	The Belmont	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Harwich	Wah Wah Taysee Road	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Harwich	Wequasett Inn Resort	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	274	274	1
Harwich	Zylpha	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Hingham	Belair	Sampling Point	Weekly	11	1	504	504	1
Hingham	Kimball	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Hingham	North	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	2	109	480	2
Hingham	Otis	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Hingham	Seal Cove	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	720	720	1
Hingham	Town Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	153	153	1
Hingham	Wampatuck	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Hingham	Yacht Club	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Hull	A Street Bay Side	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Hull	A Street Ocean	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	5	109	860	2
Hull	Darcy's	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	272	272	1
Hull	Edgewater	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	2	122	243	2
Hull	Gunrock	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	2	121	122	2
Hull	James Ave.	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Hull	Kenberma	Sampling Point	Biweekly	8				
Hull	Nantasket	Bathhouse	Weekly	16				
Hull	Nantasket	North site	Weekly	16				
Hull	Nantasket	Park St.	Weekly	16				
Hull	Nantasket	Water St.	Weekly	16				
Hull	Newport	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	119	119	1
Hull	XYZ	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	4	145	990	3
Ipswich	Clark	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Ipswich	Crane	Head Lifeguard Station	Monthly	7				
Ipswich	Little Neck	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	142	142	1
Ipswich	Pavillion	greatest batherload	Monthly	7				
Ipswich	Steep Hill	Steep Hill	Weekly	15				
Kingston	Gray's	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	2	210	225	1
Kingston	Rocky Nook	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	2	140	340	1
Lynn	Kings	Kimball Road	Weekly	24	7	106	4800	7
Lynn	Kings	Ocean Terrace	Weekly	24	6	116	17000	8
Lynn	Kings	Stacy Brook Outlet	Weekly	24	17	108	6300	7
Manchester	Black	Sampling Point	Weekly	18	2	130	350	1
Manchester	Magnolia	Right of Bath & Tennis	Weekly	16	3	110	700	2

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Manchester	Magnolia	Sampling Point 1	Weekly	18				
Manchester	Singing	Right of parking lot	Weekly	16				
Manchester	Singing	Sampling Point 1	Weekly	16				
Manchester	Tuck's Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	18	2	200	275	2
Manchester	West Manchester	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	4	305	4100	3
Manchester	White	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	1	280	280	
Marblehead	Crocker Park	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	2	408	500	1
Marblehead	Devereux	Sampling Point	Weekly	18	2	298	2280	2
Marblehead	Gas House	Sampling Point	Weekly	18	6	109	800	2
Marblehead	Grace Oliver	Sampling Point	Weekly	20	6	109	840	5
Marblehead	Stramski	Sampling Point	Weekly	18	2	1470	1600	2
Marblehead	Sunset Road	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	1	204	204	
Marblehead	Village Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	131	131	1
Marion	Beverly Yacht	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Marion	Converse Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Marion	Dexter Lane	Sampling Point	Weekly	11	1	271	271	1
Marion	Island Wharf	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Marion	Oakdale Avenue	Sampling Point	Weekly	11	2	136	148	2
Marion	Piney Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Marion	Planting Island	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Marion	Silver Shell	North Jetty	Weekly	11				
Marion	Silver Shell	South Jetty	Weekly	11				
Marion	Tabor Academy	Sampling Point 1	Weekly	11				
Marion	Tabor Academy	Sampling Point 2	Weekly	11				1
Marshfield	Brant Rock	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	110	110	1
Marshfield	Fieldston	9th Road	Weekly	13	1	148	148	1
Marshfield	Fieldston	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	134	134	1
Marshfield	Green Harbor	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	3	211	580	3
Marshfield	Rexhame	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Mashpee	Callies Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Mashpee	Mashpee Neck Road (Town Landing)	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Mashpee	Maushup Village	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Mashpee	New Seabury Inn	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Mashpee	Popponesset	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Mashpee	Popponesset Spit	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	212	212	1
Mashpee	Seconsett Island Causeway	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Mashpee	South Cape Beach	Sampling Point 1	Weekly	16				
Mattapoisett	Antasawomak	Sampling Point 1	Weekly	10				
Mattapoisett	Antasawomak	Sampling Point 2	Weekly	10				
Mattapoisett	Aucoot	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Mattapoisett	Brant Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Mattapoisett	Crescent	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Mattapoisett	Harbor 1	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Mattapoisett	Harbor 2	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Mattapoisett	Hollywoods	Sampling Point 1	Weekly	10				
Mattapoisett	Hollywoods	Sampling Point 2	Weekly	10				
Mattapoisett	Land Trust Reservation	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Mattapoisett	Leisure Shores	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Mattapoisett	Mattapoisett Shores Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Mattapoisett	Ned's Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Mattapoisett	Peases Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Mattapoisett	Point Connett	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Mattapoisett	Town Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	540	540	1
Nahant	Black Rock	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	330	330	1
Nahant	Canoe	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	146	146	1
Nahant	Nahant Beach	Flagpole	Weekly	15				
Nahant	Nahant Beach	N. of bathhouse	Weekly	16				
Nahant	Nahant Beach	Parking section 9	Weekly	16				
Nahant	Nahant Beach	South site	Weekly	16				
Nahant	Short	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	2	197	275	2
Nahant	Tudor	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Nantucket	40th Pole 1	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	298	298	2
Nantucket	Children's	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				1
Nantucket	Cisco	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				1
Nantucket	Cliffside	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Nantucket	Dionis	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	2	120	182	3
Nantucket	Jetties	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	114	114	2
Nantucket	Madaket	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				1
Nantucket	Miacomet	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				1
Nantucket	Sconset 1	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				1
Nantucket	Sewerbeds	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				1
Nantucket	Surfside 1	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				1
Nantucket	Surfside 2	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				1
Nantucket	Warren's Landing	Sampling Point	Monthly	4	1	172	172	2
Nantucket	Washing Pond	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	3	110	128	3
Nantucket	Washington Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	3	180	400	3
Nantucket	Wauwinet Bayside	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Nantucket	Wauwinet Oceanside	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				1
New Bedford	400 North	Sampling Point	Weekly	19	2	130	284	2
New Bedford	400 South	Sampling Point	Weekly	21	4	122	272	4
New Bedford	Davy's Locker	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
New Bedford	J. Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	20	4	120	478	3
New Bedford	Kids Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	20	3	106	896	3
New Bedford	O'Tools	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
New Bedford	Squid	Sampling Point	Weekly	19	3	112	754	2
New Bedford	Tabor Park South	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	1	228	228	1
New Bedford	Tower 1	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	1	160	160	1
New Bedford	Tower 4	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	1	110	110	1
Newbury	Plum Island	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				
Newburyport	Plum Island	55th street	Weekly	11	1	142	142	1
Newburyport	Plum Island	end of island 1	Biweekly	7				
Newburyport	Plum Island	end of island 2	Biweekly	7				
Newburyport	Plum Island	Plum Island Point	Biweekly	7				
Oak Bluffs	Eastville Town Beach - Drawbridge	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Oak Bluffs	Eastville Town Beach - Harbor	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Oak Bluffs	Joseph Sylvia State Beach	Little bridge	Weekly	12				
Oak Bluffs	Joseph Sylvia State Beach	Sound	Weekly	12				
Oak Bluffs	Madera Cove	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Oak Bluffs	Marinelli (Jetty) Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Oak Bluffs	Pay Beach	Inkwell	Weekly	12				
Oak Bluffs	Pay Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Oak Bluffs	Pecoy Point Preserve Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Orleans	Kent's Point	Sampling Point	Biweekly	7				
Orleans	Little Inn at Pleasant Bay	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Orleans	Meeting House Pond	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Orleans	Nauset	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	230	230	2
Orleans	Paw Wah Pond	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Orleans	Pleasant Bay	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	2	106	138	1
Orleans	Priscilla's Landing	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Orleans	Quanset Harbor Club Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Orleans	Rock Harbor	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	106	106	1
Orleans	Skaket Beach	Sampling Point	Biweekly	7				
Orleans	Skaket Beach Condominiums	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	400	400	2
Orleans	Town Cove	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	2	130	232	1
Plymouth	Center Hill Road	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	259	259	2
Plymouth	Nelson Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	2	155	231	1
Plymouth	Plymouth	Sampling Point 1	Weekly	13				
Plymouth	Plymouth	Sampling Point 3	Weekly	14	2	122	294	2
Plymouth	Plymouth	Sampling Point 5	Weekly	14	3	121	530	2
Plymouth	White Horse	Full Sail	Weekly	15	3	246	2400	3
Plymouth	White Horse	Hill Top	Weekly	13	1	213	213	1
Provincetown	29 Commercial Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	2	152	720	3
Provincetown	333 Commercial Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	3	108	170	2
Provincetown	451 Commerical Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	112	112	2
Provincetown	593 Commercial Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	3	124	324	4
Provincetown	637 Commercial Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	18	4	150	196	4

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Provincetown	Atkins Lane	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	184	184	2
Provincetown	Atlantic Avenue	Sampling Point	Weekly	18	5	120	260	3
Provincetown	Court Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	15				1
Provincetown	Herring Cove	Sampling Point 1	Weekly	9				
Provincetown	Johnson Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	110	110	2
Provincetown	Kendal Lane	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	2	128	340	3
Provincetown	Provincetown Inn Rotary	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				1
Provincetown	Race Point	Sampling Point 1	Weekly	11	2	400	400	2
Provincetown	Race Point	Sampling Point 3	Weekly	12	2	130	400	2
Provincetown	Ryder Street	Sampling Point Left	Weekly	15	1	152	152	2
Provincetown	Ryder Street	Sampling Point Middle	Weekly	15	1	244	244	2
Provincetown	Ryder Street	Sampling Point Right	Weekly	16	2	130	220	3
Provincetown	Town Landing - Breakwater	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	120	120	2
Provincetown	Town Landing - Snail Road	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	2	136	392	3
Provincetown	Town Landing West of Coast Guard	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	120	120	2
Provincetown	West End Lot	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	228	228	2
Quincy	Avalon	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	3	285	612	3
Quincy	Broady (Baker)	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	1	199	199	2
Quincy	Chikatawbot	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	4	122	285	3
Quincy	Delano Ave.	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	4	121	330	3
Quincy	Edgewater	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	110	110	1
Quincy	Germantown Firestation	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Quincy	Heron	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	2	364	370	2
Quincy	Merrymount	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	169	169	1
Quincy	Mound	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	2	110	496	2
Quincy	Nickerson	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	3	231	3970	2
Quincy	Orchard Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Quincy	Parkhurst	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Quincy	Rhoda	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	3	231	1100	2
Quincy	Wollaston	Channing Street	Daily	84	19	106	10500	24
Quincy	Wollaston	Milton Street	Daily	83	22	109	4610	19
Quincy	Wollaston	Rice Road	Daily	83	10	122	1300	19
Quincy	Wollaston	Sachem Street	Daily	83	9	132	2910	27
Revere	Revere	at state police	Weekly	17	1	340	340	1
Revere	Revere	Oak Island St.	Weekly	17				1
Revere	Revere	Point of Pines	Weekly	17	1	143	143	1
Revere	Revere	Shirley St.	Weekly	17	1	280	280	1
Revere	Short	Sampling Point	Weekly	19	3	119	3000	3
Rockport	Back	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				
Rockport	Cape Hedge	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				
Rockport	Front Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				
Rockport	Long	Gloucester	Monthly	3				

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Rockport	Long	North	Monthly	3				
Rockport	Old Garden	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				
Rockport	Pebble	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				
Salem	Children's Island - Back	Sampling Point	Weekly	9	1	520	520	2
Salem	Children's Island - Dock	Sampling Point	Weekly	9				
Salem	Children's Island - Wally	Sampling Point	Weekly	8	1	250	250	2
Salem	Collins Cove	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	200	200	1
Salem	Dead Horse	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Salem	Forest River Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Salem	Juniper Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	140	140	1
Salem	Mackey	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Salem	Ocean Avenue	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Salem	Osgood	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	2	175	216	1
Salem	Pioneer	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Salem	Steps	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Salem	Willow Avenue	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	5	158	860	4
Salem	Willows Pier	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	720	720	1
Salem	Winter Island (Waikiki)	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Salisbury	Salisbury	North Beach	Weekly	16				
Salisbury	Salisbury	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Sandwich	East Sandwich	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Sandwich	Scusset	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	1	191	191	1
Sandwich	Torrey Beach Community Association	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Sandwich	Town Neck	End of Boardwalk	Weekly	14				
Sandwich	Town Neck	Mill Creek	Weekly	17	3	110	362	1
Sandwich	Town Neck (Horizons)	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Scituate	Egypt	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	190	190	1
Scituate	Humarock	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	270	270	1
Scituate	Minot	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	180	180	1
Scituate	Peggotty	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	210	210	1
Scituate	Sand Hills	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	300	300	1
Scituate	Scituate Lighthouse	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	146	146	1
Somerset	Pearse	Sampling Point	Weekly	18	3	161	1530	3
Swampscott	Eisman's	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	309	309	1
Swampscott	Fisherman's	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	3	120	1200	2
Swampscott	Kings	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	309	309	1
Swampscott	Phillips	Sampling Point	Biweekly	6				
Swampscott	Preston	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	228	228	1
Swampscott	Whales	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	140	140	1
Swansea	Cedar Cove	Sampling Point	Weekly	10				
Swansea	Coles River Club off Harbor Rd	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	1	122	122	1
Swansea	Leeside	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Swansea	Sandy Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	12	2	570	930	2
Swansea	Town Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Tisbury	Hilman's Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Tisbury	Mink Meadows	Sampling Point	Not Monitored	0				
Tisbury	Owen Little Way	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Tisbury	Owen Park	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Tisbury	Ramble Trail Preserve Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Tisbury	Sound @ Wilfred's Pond Preserve	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Tisbury	Tashmoo Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Tisbury	Tashmoo Cut	Sampling Point	Weekly	11	1	144	144	1
Tisbury	Vineyard Harbor Motel	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	3	131	300	3
Truro	Ballston	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Truro	Coast Guard Town	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Truro	Cold Storage/Pond Village	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Truro	Corn Hill	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Truro	Crow's Nest (496 Shore Rd)	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Truro	Dune's Colony (648 Shore Rd)	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Truro	Fisher	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Truro	Great Hollow	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Truro	Head of the Meadow	Sampling Point	Weekly	9				
Truro	Head of the Meadow (Town)	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Truro	Longnook	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Truro	Noon's Landing	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Truro	Pamet Harbor	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	2	298	328	2
Truro	Ryder	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Truro	Sunset Village (379 Shore Rd)	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Truro	Town Landing Beach Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	14				
Wareham	Briarwood	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	186	186	1
Wareham	East Boulevard	Sampling Point	Biweekly	6				
Wareham	Forbes	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	4	200	400	4
Wareham	Hamilton Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	3	118	400	2
Wareham	Indian Mound Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Wareham	Little Harbor	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	2	110	216	2
Wareham	North Boulevard	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Wareham	Onset	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	1	334	334	1
Wareham	Parkwood	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	2	236	400	2
Wareham	Pinehurst	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Wareham	Point Independence	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Wareham	Riverside Avenue	Sampling Point	Biweekly	8				
Wareham	Shell Point	Sampling Point	Biweekly	6				
Wareham	Standish Shores	Sampling Point	Weekly	13	3	124	260	3
Wareham	Swift's	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	3	136	386	2

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Wareham	Swift's Neck	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	2	134	246	2
Wellfleet	Burton Baker	Sampling Point	Weekly	5	1	200	200	1
Wellfleet	Cahoon Hollow	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Wellfleet	Chequesset Yacht and Country Club	Sampling Point	Weekly	12				
Wellfleet	Duck Harbor	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Wellfleet	Indian Neck	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Wellfleet	Kellers Corner	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Wellfleet	Maguires Landing	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Wellfleet	Marconi	Sampling Point 1	Weekly	9				
Wellfleet	Marconi	Sampling Point 3	Weekly	9				
Wellfleet	Mayo	Sampling Point	Weekly	15	1	110	110	1
Wellfleet	Newcomb Hollow	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Wellfleet	Omaha Road	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Wellfleet	Powers Landing	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
Wellfleet	White Crest	Sampling Point	Monthly	4				
West Tisbury	Great Pond @ Long Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
West Tisbury	Lambert's Cove Beach	North	Weekly	13				
West Tisbury	Lambert's Cove Beach	South	Weekly	13				
West Tisbury	Ocean @ Long Point	East	Weekly	13				
West Tisbury	Ocean @ Long Point	West	Weekly	13				
West Tisbury	Sepiessa Point	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Westport	Baker's Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Westport	C and K Club	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Westport	Cherry & Webb	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				
Westport	East Beach	Sampling Point	Monthly	3				
Westport	Elephant Rock	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Westport	Horseneck	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	1	140	140	1
Westport	Spindle Rock	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Westport	Town Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	11				
Weymouth	George E. Lane	Sampling Point	Weekly	13				
Weymouth	Wessagusett (Old Wessagussett)	Sampling Point	Biweekly	7				
Winthrop	Donovans	Sampling Point	Weekly	10	1	810	810	2
Winthrop	Grandview	Sampling Point	Weekly	9				
Winthrop	Halford	Sampling Point	Weekly	9	1	279	279	3
Winthrop	Pico	Sampling Point	Weekly	9	1	210	210	3
Winthrop	Winthrop	Sampling Point	Weekly	18	2	562	580	1
Winthrop	Yerrill	Sampling Point	Weekly	14	4	119	1350	3
Yarmouth	Bass River	East	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Bass River	West	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Baxter Avenue	Sampling Point	Weekly	17	1	320	320	1
Yarmouth	Bay Road	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	1	120	120	1
Yarmouth	Bayview Street	Sampling Point	Weekly	18	2	134	400	2

Table 13

MA Marine Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Sample Location	Testing Frequency	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Yarmouth	Colonial Acres	East	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Colonial Acres	West	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Columbus Avenue	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	1	142	142	1
Yarmouth	Englewood	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Follins Pond	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Gray's Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	16	1	204	204	1
Yarmouth	Ocean Club	Smuggler's Beach	Weekly	12				
Yarmouth	Parkers River East	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Parkers River West	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Seagull (Center)	East front	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Seagull (Left)	back	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Seagull (Right)	West front	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Seaview Ave. Beach	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	South Middle	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Thatcher Town Park	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Wilbur Park	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				
Yarmouth	Windmill	Sampling Point	Weekly	16				

1 - Multiple instances of beaches may occur due to multiple sampling points.

2 - The number of postings could be greater than the number of single sample exceedances due to the presence of geometric mean exceedances or precautionary postings

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Abington	Island Grove Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Acton	NARA Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	19	3	334	600	2
Agawam	Robinson Pond Beach 1	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Amesbury	Camp Bauercrest	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Amesbury	Glen Devin Condominiums	Weekly	E. Coli	12	1	866	866	
Amesbury	Lake Attitash-Dam/Bathing area	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Amesbury	Lake Gardner	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Amesbury	Whitehall Lake Condominiums-Crowninshield Mgmt.	Weekly	E. Coli	12	1	488	488	
Andover	Pomps Pond - Center	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Andover	Pomps Pond - Left Side	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Andover	Pomps Pond - Right Side	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Arlington	Arlington Reservoir	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Arlington	Medford Boat Club - Lower	Weekly	E. Coli	13	1	600	600	1
Arlington	Medford Boat Club - Upper	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Ashburnham	Camp Collier	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Ashburnham	Camp Winnekeag Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Ashby	Damon Pond Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Ashfield	Ashfield Park Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Ashland	Camp Winnetaska	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Ashland	Warren Conference Center	Weekly	E. Coli	18				
Athol	Ellis Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	24	11	299	2400	1
Athol	Silver Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	24	4	516	914	
Auburn	Century Sportsmen	Weekly	E. Coli	32				
Ayer	Ayer Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Ayer	Mirror Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Barnstable	Bearses Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Barnstable	Fair Acres Country Day School	Weekly	E. Coli	8	1	240	240	1
Barnstable	Garrett's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Barnstable	Gooseberry Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Barnstable	Hamblin Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Barnstable	Hathaway Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	15	1	240	240	1
Barnstable	Homestead Homeowner's Association	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Barnstable	Joshua's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Barnstable	Long Pond (Centerville)	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Barnstable	Long Pond Farms Association	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Barnstable	Lovell's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Barnstable	Middle Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Barnstable	Mystic Lake Race Lane	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Barnstable	Mystic Lake Sawmill	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Barnstable	Regency Drive Owners Association	Weekly	E. Coli	13	1	496	496	
Barnstable	Sand Shores Association	Twice per week	E. Coli	26				

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Barnstable	Shallow Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Barnstable	Shubael Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Barnstable	Wequaquet Estates	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Barnstable	Wequaquet Heights Association (118 Conners)	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Barnstable	Wequaquet Heights Association (Jimmy's Beach)	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Barnstable	Wequaquet Lake Town	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Barnstable	Wequaquet Lake Yacht	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Barnstable	Wianno Club (Fresh-Crystal Lake)	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Becket	Becket Woods - Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Becket	Becket Woods - Dock	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Becket	Camp Becket - Iroquois Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Becket	Camp Becket Main - Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Becket	Camp Greylock - Jr. Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	20				
Becket	Camp Watitoh Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Becket	Center Lake Estates Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Becket	Center Pond Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Becket	Center Pond Beach	Weekly	Total Coliform	7				
Becket	Chimney Corners Camp - Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Becket	Crystal Pond Homeowners Assoc Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Becket	Indian Lake Assoc - Beach #1	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Becket	Indian Lake Assoc - Beach #2	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Becket	Indian Lake Assoc - Boat Dock	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Becket	Indian Lake Assoc - Small Pond Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Becket	Mountain Grove Assoc. Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Becket	Shawnee Shore Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Becket	Sherwood Forest - Excalibur	Biweekly	E. Coli	9				
Becket	Sherwood Forest - Lancelot Beach	Biweekly	E. Coli	9				
Becket	Sherwood Forest - Little Robin Beach	Biweekly	E. Coli	9				
Becket	Sherwood Forest - Robin Hood #1	Biweekly	E. Coli	9				
Becket	Sherwood Forest - Robin Hood #2	Biweekly	E. Coli	9				
Bedford	Springs Brook Park Bathing Beach - Slide	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Bedford	Springs Brook Park Bathing Beach - Concession	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Belchertown	Lake Arcadia	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Bellingham	Arcand Park	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Bellingham	Silver Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Billerica	Micozzi Beach - North	Weekly	E. Coli	11	1	280	280	1
Billerica	Micozzi Beach - South	Weekly	E. Coli	11				1
Bolton	Bolton Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Bolton	Camp Virginia Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	8				
Bolton	Tom Denny Camp	Weekly	E. Coli	8				
Bourne	Picture Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	14				

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Bourne	Queen Sewell Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Boxford	Camp Rotary	Biweekly	E. Coli	4				
Boxford	Camp Stepping Stone	Biweekly	E. Coli	3				
Boxford	Camp Wakanda	Biweekly	E. Coli	3				
Boxford	Danvers YMCA Daycamp	Biweekly	E. Coli	3				
Braintree	Sunset Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	21	9	256	940	2
Brewster	Beechwood	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Brewster	Blueberry Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Brewster	Cape Cod Sea Camps (Long Pond)	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Brewster	Cliff Pond - Day Use	Weekly	Enterococci	16				1
Brewster	Cliff Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	16				1
Brewster	Flax Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Brewster	Greenland Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Brewster	Long Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Brewster	Long Pond at Camp Favorite	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Brewster	Owl Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Brewster	Seymour Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Brewster	Sheep Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Brewster	Sheep Pond Beach (Tupelo Rd.)	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Brewster	Slough Pond - Crossroads for Kids Camp	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Brewster	Slough Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Brewster	Upper Mill Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Carver	Cooper's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Carver	Crystal Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	17	1	250	250	
Carver	John's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Carver	Sampson's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	18	2	280	740	
Charlemont	Cold River Pool	Weekly	Enterococci	17	2	86	600	1
Charlton	Camp Foskett (YMCA)	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Charlton	Camp Joslin	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Chatham	60 White Pond Rd.	Weekly	Enterococci	9				
Chatham	Goose Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	10				
Chatham	Schoolhouse Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	10				
Chatham	White Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	14	4	78	201	2
Chelmsford	Baptist Pond	Unknown	E. Coli	3				
Chelmsford	Freeman Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	4	1	320	320	1
Chesterfield	Chesterfield Scout Reservation - BSA	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Chicopee	Chicopee Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Clarksburg	Mausert Pond - Day use area beach	Weekly	Enterococci	19	4	66	1980	3
Concord	Annursnac Hill Assoc.	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Concord	Annursnac Hill Assoc.	Weekly	Total Coliform	2				
Concord	Silver Hill Assoc	Weekly	E. Coli	16				

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Concord	Silver Hill Assoc	Weekly	Total Coliform	2				
Concord	Walden Pond - Main	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Concord	Walden Pond - Red Cross	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Concord	White Pond Assoc	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Concord	White Pond Assoc	Weekly	Total Coliform	2				
Conway	Conway Swimming Pool	Weekly	E. Coli	10	1	304	304	
Cummington	Shire Village Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Dennis	Flax Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Dennis	Princess Beach-Scargo Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Dennis	Scargo Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Douglas	Breezy Picnic Grounds	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Douglas	Lake Manchaug Camping	Weekly	E. Coli	15	1	510	510	1
Douglas	Wallum Lake	Weekly	Enterococci	17	1	110	110	1
Douglas	Wallum Lake Terrace	Monthly	E. Coli	4				
Dover	Grossman Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Dover	Powissett	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Dracut	Fleur de Lis	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Dracut	Grove	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Dracut	Hilltop	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Dracut	Mascuppic	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Dracut	Passaconaway	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Dracut	Peter's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Dracut	Richardson	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Dudley	Merino Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
East Brookfield	Camp Frank A Day	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
East Brookfield	Lake Lashaway	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Eastham	Great Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Eastham	Herring Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Eastham	Long Pond (Depot St.)	Weekly	E. Coli	15	1	276	276	1
Eastham	Minister's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Eastham	Nauset Haven Lakeside Condo (Minister)	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Eastham	Whispering Pines Condo (Muddy Pond)	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Eastham	Wiley Park	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Easton	Swim Area	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Egremont	Prospect Lake Park	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Erving	Laurel Lake	Weekly	Enterococci	15				
Essex	Camp Menorah	Weekly	E. Coli	7				
Falmouth	Ashumet Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Falmouth	Ashumet Valley Holly Sands	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Falmouth	Cape Cod Camp Resort	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Falmouth	Coonamessett Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Falmouth	Grew's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Falmouth	Jenkins Pond - Pinecrest	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Falmouth	Lochstead Association	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Falmouth	Mares Pond Association	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Falmouth	Sand Pointe Shores-Rock Hollow	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Falmouth	Sand Pointe Shores-White Cap	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Falmouth	Shady Lane HA-Crooked Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Falmouth	Water-by Estates Association-Flax Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Florida	Manice Education Center Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	20				
Framingham	Cochituate Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Framingham	Learned Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Framingham	Washakum Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Franklin	Chilson Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	12	1	540	540	1
Freetown	Long Pond AKA Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	11	2	300	310	2
Gardner	Dunn Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	11				1
Gardner	Lithuanian Outing Assoc.	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Gardner	P.A.C.C.	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Georgetown	American Legion Park	Weekly	E. Coli	12	1	461	461	1
Georgetown	Camp Leslie	Weekly	E. Coli	6				
Goshen	Camp Holy Cross	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Goshen	Camp Howe	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Goshen	Hammond Acres	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Goshen	Upper Highland Lake - Campers Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	15				
Goshen	Upper Highland Lake - Day use area beach	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Grafton	Silver Lake Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	14	1	1000	1000	
Great Barrington	Green River	Weekly	E. Coli	15	1	264	264	1
Great Barrington	Lake Mansfield	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Greenfield	Greenfield Municipal Bathing Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	18	2	290	360	2
Groton	Baby Beach Lost Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Groton	Groton Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Groton	Grotonwood Camp	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Halifax	Annawon Street	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Halifax	Halifax Beach Association	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Halifax	Holmes Street	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Halifax	Lingan Street	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Halifax	Wamsutta (State Boat Ramp)	Weekly	E. Coli	13	1	760	760	1
Hanson	Cranberry	Weekly	E. Coli	8				
Hanson	Ocean Ave.	Weekly	E. Coli	6	1	270	270	1
Harvard	Harvard Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Harwich	Aunt Edie's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Harwich	Buck's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	15	1	484	484	1

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Harwich	Great Sands 2	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Harwich	Great Sands 3	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Harwich	Great Sands - Lakeside Terrace	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Harwich	Hinkley's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				1
Harwich	Long Pond Rte 124	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Harwich	Long Pond-Cahoon St.	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Harwich	Long Pond-Long Pond Drive	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Harwich	Robbins Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Harwich	Sand Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Harwich	Seymour Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Harwich	Skinequit Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Haverhill	Plug's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	24				
Heath	Mohawk Estates Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Hinsdale	Camp Ashmere Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Hinsdale	Camp Emerson Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Hinsdale	Camp Emerson Marina	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Hinsdale	Camp Emerson Marina	Weekly	Total Coliform	10				
Hinsdale	Camp Romaca	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Hinsdale	Camp Taconic Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Hinsdale	Dan Duquette Sports Academy	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Hinsdale	Plunkett Lake Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Holden	Eagle Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Holland	Holland Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Holliston	Pleasure Point	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Holliston	Stoddard	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Hopkinton	Hopkinton Reservoir-Main Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	17	1	92	92	1
Hopkinton	Hopkinton Reservoir-Upper Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Hopkinton	Sandy Beach Left	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Hopkinton	Sandy Beach Middle	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Hopkinton	Sandy Beach Right	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Hubbardston	Comet Pond Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	13				
Hubbardston	Pinecrest Property Owners Assoc.	Biweekly	E. Coli	8				
Hudson	Hudson Centennial Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	10	1	360	360	1
Huntington	Timothy Hill Children's Ranch	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Ipswich	Hood Pond-boat ramp	Weekly	Enterococci	14	1	130	130	1
Kingston	Camp Mishannock	Weekly	E. Coli	6				
Lakeville	3rd Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Lakeville	Big Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	18	2	330	470	2
Lakeville	Clear Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Lancaster	Camp Lowe Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Lancaster	Lancaster Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	9	1	260	260	1

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Lanesborough	Camp Mohawk Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	7				
Lanesborough	Sunrise Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Lee	Sandy Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	12	3	400	400	
Leicester	Camp Wind-in-the-Pines: lower beach	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Leicester	Camp Wind-in-the-Pines: upper beach	Weekly	E. Coli	8	1	580	580	1
Lenox	Laurel Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	12	2	400	400	
Leominster	Ricker's Kindercamp	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Lexington	Old Reservoir Swim Area #1	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Lexington	Old Reservoir Swim Area #2	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Littleton	Littleton Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Lowell	Merrimac River - Boat House	Weekly	E. Coli	15	2	270	740	
Ludlow	Haviland Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	19	3	250	570	4
Lunenburg	Hickory Hill (Hemlock Drive)	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Lunenburg	Hickory Hills (Island Rd.)	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Lunenburg	Lunenburg Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	11	1	600	600	1
Lynn	Flax Pond - Railing	Weekly	Enterococci	8	5	74	360	
Lynn	Flax Pond - Rocks	Weekly	Enterococci	8	4	63	140	
Lynn	Sluice Pond - Briarcliff Lodge	Weekly	Enterococci	8	6	64	2000	
Lynn	Sluice Pond - Four Winds	Weekly	Enterococci	8	5	72	480	
Marlborough	McDonald Beach	Once	Fecal Coliform	1				
Marlborough	Memorial - Left	Weekly	E. Coli	10	1	470	470	1
Marlborough	Memorial - Middle	Weekly	E. Coli	1				
Marlborough	Memorial - Right	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Marlborough	Rodger's Beach	Once	Fecal Coliform	1				
Mashpee	Attaquin	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Mashpee	Camp Farley - Wakeby Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	15	1	396	396	1
Mashpee	Fells Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Mashpee	John's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	13	1	800	800	1
Mashpee	John's Pond (Briarwood)	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Mashpee	John's Pond (North)	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Mashpee	John's Pond - Back Rd.	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Mashpee	John's Pond -Brickyard Rd.	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Mashpee	Mashpee Shores Assoc.	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Mashpee	Santuit Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14	1	800	800	1
Mashpee	Santuit Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Mashpee	Santuit Pond Estate Assoc. - Santuit Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Mashpee	Trustee's of the Reservation (Mashpee Pond)	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Mashpee	Trustee's of the Reservation (Wakeby Pond)	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Medfield	Hinkley Left	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Medfield	Hinkley Left	Weekly	Enterococci	9	1	72	72	
Medfield	Hinkley Right	Weekly	E. Coli	12				

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Medfield	Hinkley Right	Weekly	Enterococci	9	1	78	78	
Medford	Wrights Pond - Deep End	Weekly	E. Coli	8				
Medford	Wrights Pond - Shallow End	Weekly	E. Coli	9	1	320	320	1
Medway	Choate Pond - Left	Weekly	E. Coli	8	1	2000	2000	
Medway	Choate Pond - Right	Weekly	E. Coli	8	1	1600	1600	
Mendon	Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	11	3	720	1400	
Methuen	Forest Lake: Swimming Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Middleborough	Camp Avoda	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Middleborough	Camp Yomechas	Weekly	E. Coli	20	4	280	485	3
Middleborough	Woods Pond Cabins	Weekly	E. Coli	10	1	400	400	1
Middleton	Thunderbridge	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Milton	Houghton's Pond @ Bathouse	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Monterey	Benedict Pond Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	18	3	76	560	1
Monterey	Camp Half Moon	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Monterey	Lake Garfield	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Monterey	The Seven Stones Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Mt. Washington	Camp Hi Rock - Bear Rock Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	19				
Mt. Washington	Camp Hi Rock - Main Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Nantucket	Miacomet Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	11	1	240	240	1
Nantucket	Sesachacha Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Natick	Camp Arrowhead	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Natick	Camp Nonesuch	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Natick	Cochituate Lake-North Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Natick	Dug Pond - Diving	Weekly	E. Coli	13	1	500	500	1
Natick	Dug Pond - Kiddie	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
New Braintree	Camp Putnam	Once	E. Coli	1				
Newton	Crystal Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
North Adams	Windsor Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
North Andover	Frye Pond Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	18	2	68	144	2
North Andover	Stevens Pond - Right	Weekly	E. Coli	14	3	280	760	1
North Attleboro	Falls Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	9	1	290	290	1
North Attleboro	Whitings Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	10	3	240	480	2
North Brookfield	Brooks Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
North Brookfield	Camp Atwater	Weekly	E. Coli	8				
Northampton	Musante Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Northbridge	Girl Scout Camp	Weekly	E. Coli	6				
Oakham	Lake Dean - Dean Campground	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Oakham	Lake Dean - Pine Acres Campground	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Oakham	Treasure Valley Scout - East	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Oakham	Treasure Valley Scout - West	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Orange	Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Orleans	Crystal Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Orleans	Pilgrim Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Otis	Camp Bonnie Brae	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Otis	Camp Nawaka	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Otis	Camp Overflow Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Otis	Otis Reservoir Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Otis	Otis Woodlands Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17	1	525	525	
Otis	Otis Woodlands Beach	Weekly	Total Coliform	17				
Otis	Otis Woodlands Picnic Grove	Weekly	E. Coli	17	2	272	344	
Otis	Otis Woodlands Picnic Grove	Weekly	Total Coliform	17				
Otis	Otis Woodlands Weir	Weekly	E. Coli	17	1	479	479	
Otis	Otis Woodlands Weir	Weekly	Total Coliform	17				
Oxford	Carbunkle Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	10	3	470	2000	
Pembroke	Finn Camp	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Pembroke	Hobomoc Pond	Once	E. Coli	1				
Pembroke	Little Sandy	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Pembroke	Oldham	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Pembroke	Stetson	Weekly	E. Coli	16	1	1060	1060	
Peru	Camp Danbee	Weekly	E. Coli	18				
Phillipston	Queen Lake Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	18				
Phillipston	Queen Lake Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	22				
Pittsfield	Camp St. Michael	Weekly	E. Coli	20				
Pittsfield	Camp Stevenson/Witawentin	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Pittsfield	Country Club of Pittsfield	Weekly	E. Coli	19				
Pittsfield	Lakeside Christian Camp	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Pittsfield	Lulu Pond Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	17	1	66	66	1
Pittsfield	Onota Lake - Burbank Park	Weekly	E. Coli	6				
Pittsfield	Onota Lake - Controy Pavillion	Weekly	E. Coli	19				
Pittsfield	Onota Lake - Public Beach #1	Weekly	E. Coli	32				
Pittsfield	Pontoosuc Lake - Pines	Weekly	E. Coli	19				
Pittsfield	Pontoosuc Lake - Public Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	19				
Plainfield	Plainfield Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Plymouth	Barrett Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	17	1	72	72	1
Plymouth	Bloody Pond - Baird Center	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Plymouth	Blueberry Hill Camp - Curlew Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Plymouth	Camp Bournedale - Great Herring Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Plymouth	Camp Cachalot	Weekly	E. Coli	6				
Plymouth	Camp Clark YMCA - Hyles Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Plymouth	Camp Massasoit - Elbow Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Plymouth	Camp Squanto	Weekly	E. Coli	6				
Plymouth	Charge Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	16				

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Plymouth	Clear Pond Motel/Village	Unknown	E. Coli	9				
Plymouth	College Pond Day Use	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Plymouth	Curlew Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Plymouth	Ellis Haven - Ellis Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Plymouth	Ellis Haven - Swimming Hole	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Plymouth	Fearing Pond 1	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Plymouth	Fearing Pond 2	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Plymouth	Fresh Pond - End Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Plymouth	Fresh Pond - Mid Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14	1	400	400	1
Plymouth	Indian Head	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Plymouth	Morton Park - Left	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Plymouth	Morton Park - Right	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Plymouth	Pinewood Camp - Camphouse Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Plymouth	Pinewood Camp - Crew Dock	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Plymouth	Pinewood Camp - Pinecones Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Plymouth	Pinewood Lodge - Fresh Meadow	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Plymouth	Sandy Pond Campground	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Plymouth	Wind-in-the-Pines Camp	Weekly	E. Coli	6				
Randolph	Ponkapoag Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Richmond	Camp Marion White	Weekly	E. Coli	21				
Richmond	Camp Marion White	Weekly	Total coliform	21				
Richmond	Richmond Shores - East	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Richmond	Richmond Shores - West	Once	E. Coli	1				
Richmond	Richmond Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Rochester	Perry's Camp	Weekly	Enterococci	11	1	79	79	1
Rochester	Snipituit Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	11	2	98	130	2
Rowe	Rowe Beach - Center	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Rowe	Rowe Beach - Inlet	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Rowe	Rowe Beach - Right	Weekly	E. Coli	17	1	378	378	
Royalston	St. Laurent Camp	Weekly	Enterococci	13				
Royalston	St. Laurent Camp	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Royalston	Tully Lake Campground	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Russell	H.A. Moses Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Rutland	Whitehall Pond Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Sandisfield	York Lake Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Sandwich	Camp Burgess	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Sandwich	Camp Good News	Weekly	E. Coli	13	1	800	800	1
Sandwich	Camp Hayward	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Sandwich	Camp Lyndon	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Sandwich	Dunroamin Park & Cottages	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Sandwich	Hoxie Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Sandwich	Lakewood Hills Property Owners Assoc.	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Sandwich	Lawrence Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Sandwich	Peter's Pond Park (boat ramp)	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Sandwich	Peter's Pond Town Park 1	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Sandwich	Pimlico Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Sandwich	Rolling Ridge Homeowners Assoc.-Lawrence Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Sandwich	Snake Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Sandwich	Triangle Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Sandwich	Wakeby Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Saugus	Pearce Lake @ Breakheart	Weekly	Enterococci	17	1	73	73	1
Saugus	Peckham Pond @ Camp Nihan	Weekly	Enterococci	17	1	71	71	1
Savoy	North Pond Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Savoy	South Pond Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Sharon	Camp Gannett Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Sharon	Camp Wonderland Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	10	1	400	400	1
Sharon	Community Center Beach	Twice per week	E. Coli	32	4	380	490	1
Sharon	Horizons for Youth Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	5	1	2000	2000	1
Sharon	Massapoag Yacht Club	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Sharon	Town Beach - Boat Landing	Twice per week	E. Coli	31				
Sharon	Town Beach - Docks	Twice per week	E. Coli	31				
Sherborn	Farm Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	22	6	63	1100	4
Shrewsbury	Sunset Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Shutesbury	Lake Wyola	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Southwick	South Pond Beach - North	Weekly	E. Coli	7				
Spencer	Camp Laurelwood	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Spencer	Camp Marshall - Thompson	Weekly	E. Coli	11	1	2000	2000	
Spencer	Luther Hill Park	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Springfield	Bass Pond - Left	Weekly	Enterococci	10	1	165	165	
Springfield	Bass Pond - Right	Weekly	Enterococci	10	2	70	201	
Springfield	Camp Wilder - Left	Weekly	Enterococci	8	2	70	101	
Springfield	Camp Wilder - Right	Weekly	Enterococci	8				
Springfield	Five Mile Pond - Left	Weekly	Enterococci	12	4	66	201	
Springfield	Five Mile Pond - Right	Weekly	Enterococci	11	2	165	201	
Springfield	Knights of Columbus - Left	Weekly	Enterococci	10	1	201	201	
Springfield	Knights of Columbus - Right	Weekly	Enterococci	10	1	201	201	
Springfield	Paddle Club - Left	Weekly	Enterococci	9				
Springfield	Paddle Club - Right	Weekly	Enterococci	9				
Sterling	Lake Waushacum #1	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Stockbridge	Beachwood Assoc. - Stockbridge Bowl	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Stockbridge	Berkshire Country Day School	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
Stockbridge	Camp Mahkeenac	Weekly	E. Coli	17				

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Stockbridge	Kripalu	Weekly	E. Coli	18				
Stockbridge	Sports School Day Camp	Weekly	E. Coli	7				
Stockbridge	Stockbridge Bowl	Weekly	E. Coli	11	1	400	400	
Stockbridge	White Pines Condos	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Stoughton	Ames Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	11	1	340	340	1
Stow	Lake Boone	Weekly	E. Coli	13	1	420	420	1
Sturbridge	Main Beach - Walker Pond Assoc.	Weekly	E. Coli	1				
Sturbridge	Oak Cove - Walker Pond Assoc.	Weekly	E. Coli	1				
Sturbridge	Outdoor World Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Sturbridge	Sturbridge Host Hotel	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Sturbridge	Sturbridge Recreation - Cedar Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	12	1	240	240	
Sturbridge	Wells State Park	Weekly	Enterococci	32				
Sutton	Camp Blanchard	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Sutton	Camp Marion	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Sutton	King's Campground	Weekly	E. Coli	21				
Sutton	Old Holbrook Campground	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Sutton	Sutton Falls Camp	Weekly	E. Coli	26	3	360	400	3
Taunton	Watsons Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	19	3	198	204	2
Templeton	Beamans Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Templeton	Beamans Pond Campground	Weekly	Enterococci	17	1	66	66	1
Templeton	Pinewood Shores	Weekly	Enterococci	3				
Templeton	Templeton Fish and Game Club	Weekly	Enterococci	3				
Tolland	Camp Kinderland Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Tolland	Camp Timbertrails	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Tolland	Wildwood - Fox Den	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Tolland	Wildwood - Lakeside	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Tolland	Wildwood - Main Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Tolland	Wildwood - Meadow	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Tolland	Wildwood - Otter Pond Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Topsfield	Hood's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	8				
Townsend	Pearl Hill Pond Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	17	1	288	288	1
Tyngsborough	Town	Weekly	E. Coli	15	1	300	300	
Tyringham	Tyringham Park Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Upton	Pratt Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Uxbridge	Buffumville Lake	Weekly	E. Coli	18				
Uxbridge	Fairwoods	Weekly	E. Coli	13	1	300	300	1
Uxbridge	Pout Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	16	1	260	260	1
Uxbridge	West Hill Park	Weekly	E. Coli	19	2	350	2000	
Wales	Lake Land	Weekly	E. Coli	16	1	236	236	
Wales	Sichols	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Wales	Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	15				

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Walpole	Sharon Country Day Camp Brook	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Walpole	Sharon Country Day Camp Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	7				
Wareham	Glen Charlie at Shangri-La	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Wareham	White Island Association	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Warren	Comin's Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Wayland	Lake Cochituate - Left Buoy (deep)	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Wayland	Lake Cochituate - Left Shallow	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Wayland	Lake Cochituate - Middle	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Wayland	Lake Cochituate - Right Shallow	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Webster	Beacon Park	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Webster	Birch Island	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Webster	Colonial Park	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Webster	Indian Ranch	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Webster	Kildeer Island	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Webster	Lakeside	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Webster	Memorial Beach #1	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Webster	Memorial Beach #2	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Webster	Nipmuc Cove	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Webster	Treasure Island	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Wellesley	Morses Beach - Shallow	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Wellfleet	Duck Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Wellfleet	Dyer Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Wellfleet	Great Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Wellfleet	Gull Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Wellfleet	Gull Pond (2)	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Wellfleet	Higgins Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Wellfleet	Long Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Wellfleet	Spectacle Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Wendell	Ruggles Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Wenham	Gull Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	1				
Wenham	Pleasant Street Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	12	2	548	1733	
West Brookfield	Lake Wickabog - Main Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
West Stockbridge	Card Pond Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
West Stockbridge	Crane Lake Camp	Weekly	E. Coli	11				
West Tisbury	Long Cove (fresh)	Weekly	Enterococci	13	3	69	101	
West Tisbury	Seth's Pond Beach #1 (Focus)	Weekly	Enterococci	15				1
West Tisbury	Seth's Pond Cove #2	Weekly	Enterococci	16	2	62	114	1
West Tisbury	Tisbury Great Pond	Weekly	Enterococci	12	2	66	97	
Westborough	Lake Chauncy Beach #1	Weekly	E. Coli	9				1
Westfield	Kingsley Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	20	5	82	306	2
Westfield	Lamberts Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	17	1	70	70	1

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Westford	American Legion	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westford	East Boston Camps - Boys Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westford	East Boston Camps - Day Care	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westford	Edwards Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Westford	Forge Village Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Westford	Lakeside Meadows	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westford	Marylou's Beach - NIA Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westford	Nashoba Valley Campers Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	13				
Westford	Nashoba Valley Swim Club Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	15				
Westford	North Beach - NIA Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westford	Sandy Beach - NIA Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westford	Summer Village Main Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westminster	Crocker Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	17				
Westminster	Crow Hill Pond Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Westminster	Wyman Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	2				
Weston	River Day Camp	Weekly	E. Coli	14				
Weston	Valley Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	21	1	6900	6900	
Westwood	Membership Beach - Middle	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westwood	Membership Beach - North	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westwood	Membership Beach - South	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westwood	North Beach - Middle	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westwood	North Beach - North	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Westwood	North Beach - South	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Whately	Tri-Town Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	16	6	250	500	2
Wilbraham	Spec Pond Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	7				
Williamstown	Margaret Lindley Park	Biweekly	E. Coli	6				
Wilmington	Baby Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Wilmington	Town Beach - Center	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Wilmington	Town Beach - Right	Weekly	E. Coli	10				
Winchendon	Lake Dennison State Park - Day Use	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Winchendon	Lake Dennison State Park - North Camp	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Winchester	Shannon Beach @ Upper Mystic	Weekly	Enterococci	15	1	730	730	2
Winchester	Wedge Pond - North	Weekly	Enterococci	8				
Winchester	Wedge Pond - South	Weekly	Enterococci	7				
Worcester	Bell Pond Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	7				
Worcester	Coes Pond Beach (Mill St.)	Weekly	E. Coli	8	2	250	270	2
Worcester	Indian Lake Public Beach (Sherburne Ave)	Weekly	E. Coli	7				
Worcester	Indian Lake Shore Park	Weekly	E. Coli	7				
Worcester	Lake Quinsigamond-Lake Park Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	16				
Worcester	Lake Quinsigamond-Regatta Point Beach	Weekly	Enterococci	17	1	600	600	1
Wrentham	Lake Pearl Park	Weekly	E. Coli	15	1	280	280	1

Table 14

MA Freshwater Beaches (2009): Water quality data for public and semi-public bathing beaches.

Community	Beach Name[1]	Testing Frequency	Indicator Type	# Tests	# Single Sample Exceedances	Minimum Exceedance	Maximum Exceedance	# Postings[2]
Wrentham	Sweatt Beach	Weekly	E. Coli	9				
Yarmouth	Big Sandy Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Yarmouth	Camp Greenough - Boy Scouts	Weekly	E. Coli	7				
Yarmouth	Dennis Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	17	1	800	800	1
Yarmouth	Elijah's Pond, Camp Wingate	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Yarmouth	Flax Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Yarmouth	Horse Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Yarmouth	Horse Pond - Halcyon Condos	Weekly	E. Coli	12				
Yarmouth	Little Sandy Pond	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Yarmouth	Long Pond - Indian	Weekly	E. Coli	16				
Yarmouth	Long Pond - Lyman	Weekly	E. Coli	16				

1 - Multiple instances of beaches may occur due to multiple sampling points.

2 - The number of postings could be greater than the number of single sample exceedances due to the presence of geometric mean exceedances or precautionary postings

Table 15

MA Beaches (2009): Exceedances Reported Based on the Number of Days Since Last Rainfall at Massachusetts Public and Semi-public Bathing Beaches During the 2009 Season

Marine beaches

# Days Since Rain	# Exceedances	%
0	450	79.1%
1	36	6.3%
2	23	4.0%
3	23	4.0%
4	14	2.5%
5	7	1.2%
6	13	2.3%
7	0	0.0%
8	2	0.4%
9	1	0.2%
Total	569	100.0%

Freshwater beaches

# Days Since Rain	# Exceedances	%
0	60	44.4%
1	28	20.7%
2	8	5.9%
3	15	11.1%
4	12	8.9%
5	4	3.0%
6	4	3.0%
7	1	0.7%
8	0	0.0%
9	0	0.0%
10	1	0.7%
10+	2	1.5%
Total	135*	100.0%

* - Out of 222 bacterial exceedances. Eighty seven exceedances had no corresponding rainfall information.

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FIGURES

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Figure 1 - MA Marine Beaches, 2009: Exceedances per Community

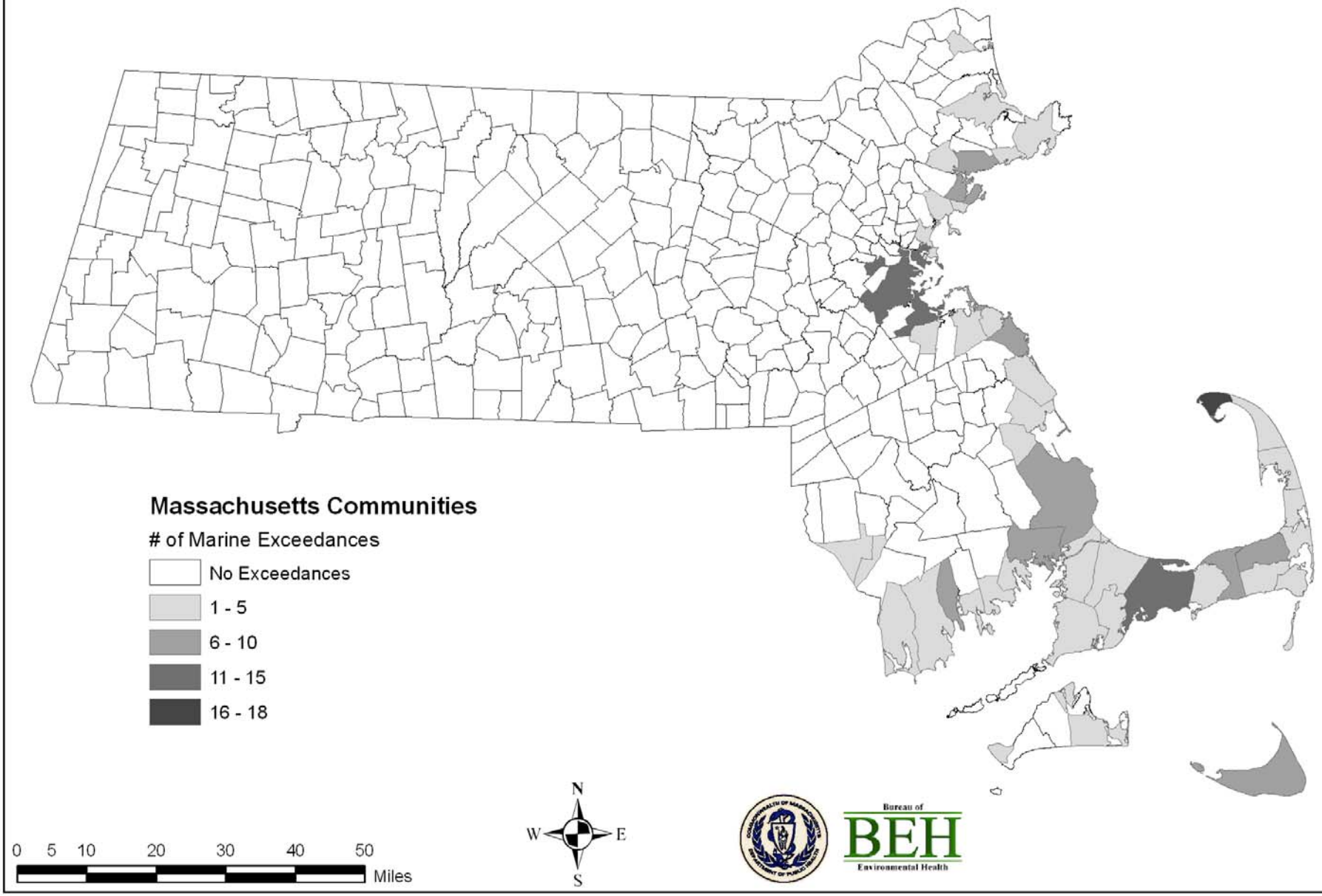


Figure 2 - MA Freshwater Beaches, 2009: Exceedances per Community

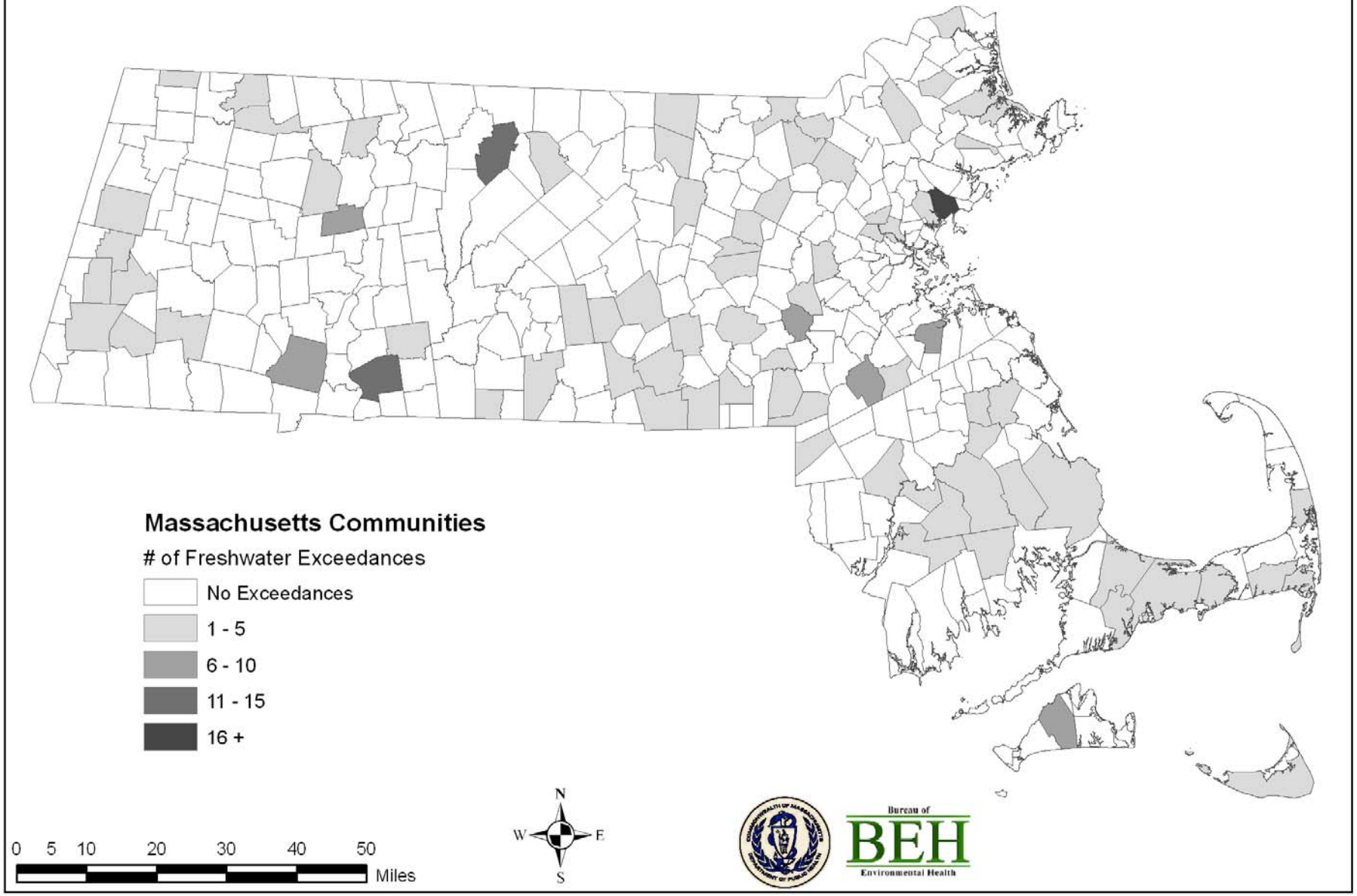


Figure 3

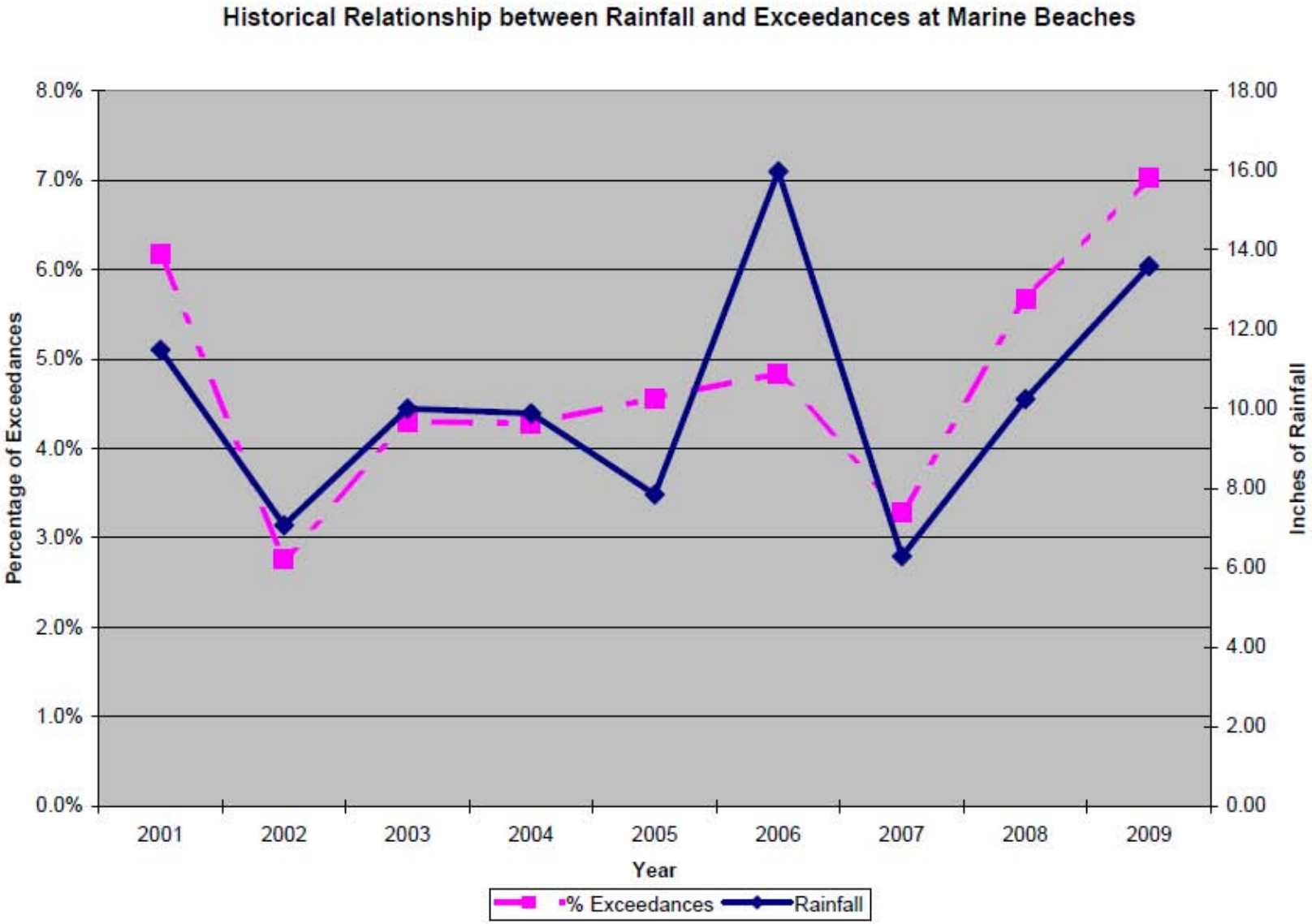
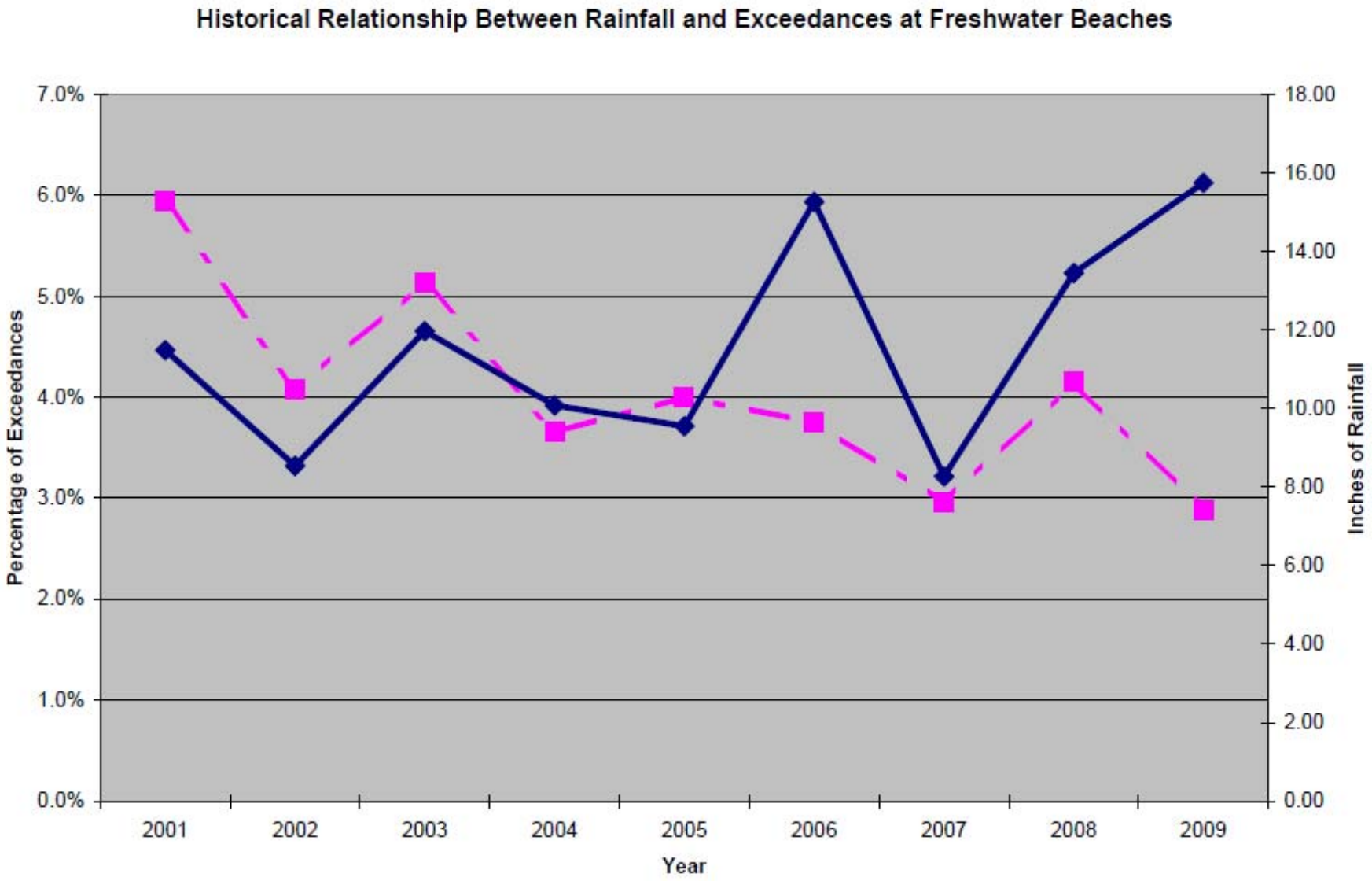
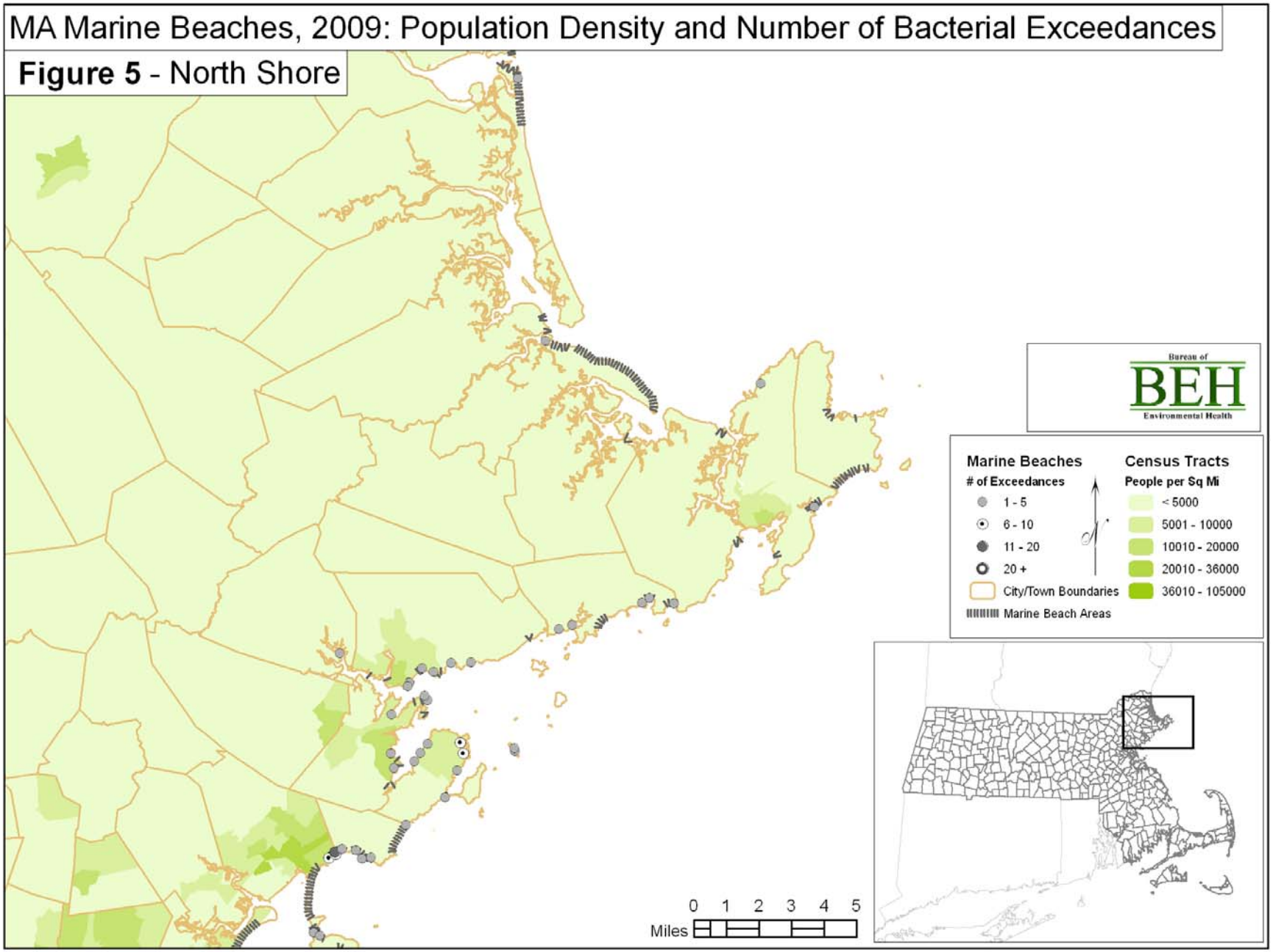

Historical Relationship between Rainfall and Exceedances at Marine Beaches
Percentage of Exceedances
8.0%
7.0%
6.0%
5.0%
4.0%
3.0%
2.0%
1.0%
0.0%
Inches of Rainfall
18.00
16.00
14.00
12.00
10.00
8.00
6.00
4.00
2.00
0.00
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
Year
% Exceedances
Rainfall

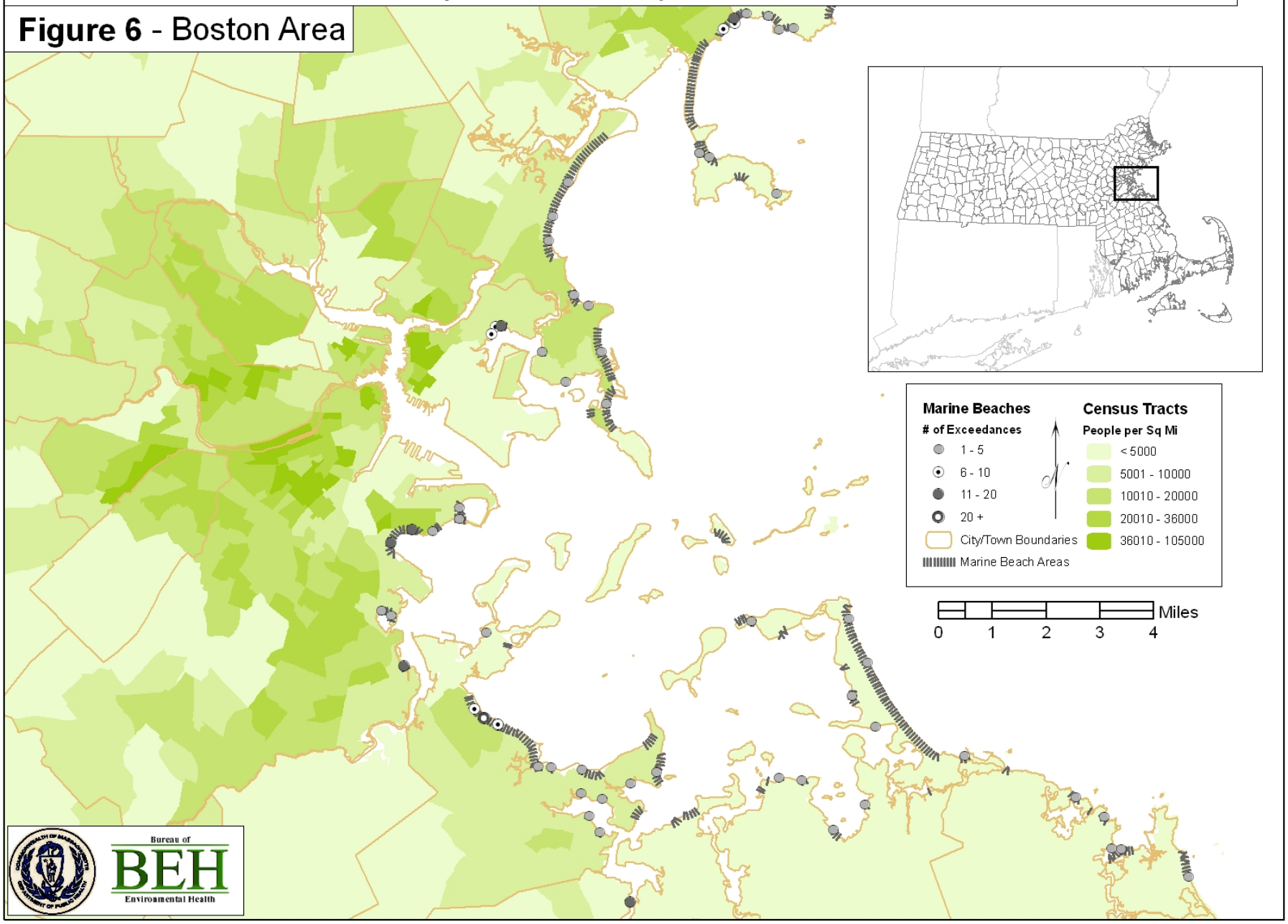
Figure 4


Historical Relationship Between Rainfall and Exceedances at Freshwater Beaches
Percentage of Exceedances
7.0%
6.0%
5.0%
4.0%
3.0%
2.0%
1.0%
0.0%
Inches of Rainfall
18.00
16.00
14.00
12.00
10.00
8.00
6.00
4.00
2.00
0.00
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
Year


MA Marine Beaches, 2009: Population Density and Number of Bacterial Exceedances
Figure 5 - North Shore
Bureau of
BEH
Environmental Health
Marine Beaches
# of Exceedances
1 - 5
6 - 10
11 - 20
20 +
City/Town Boundaries
Marine Beach Areas
Census Tracts
People per Sq Mi
< 5000
5001 - 10000
10010 - 20000
20010 - 36000
36010 - 105000
0 1 2 3 4 5
Miles

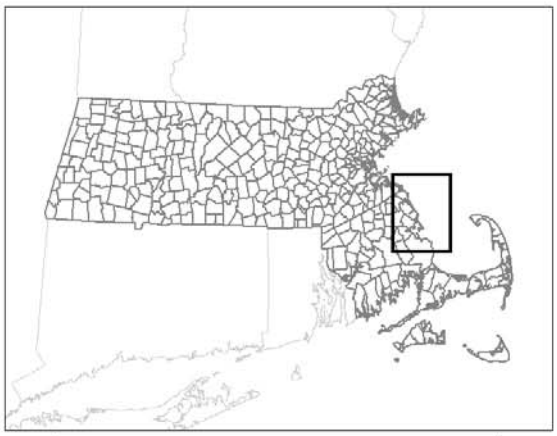
MA Marine Beaches, 2009: Population Density and Number of Bacterial Exceedances

Figure 6 - Boston Area



MA Marine Beaches, 2009: Population Density and Number of Bacterial Exceedances

Figure 7 - Plymouth Area

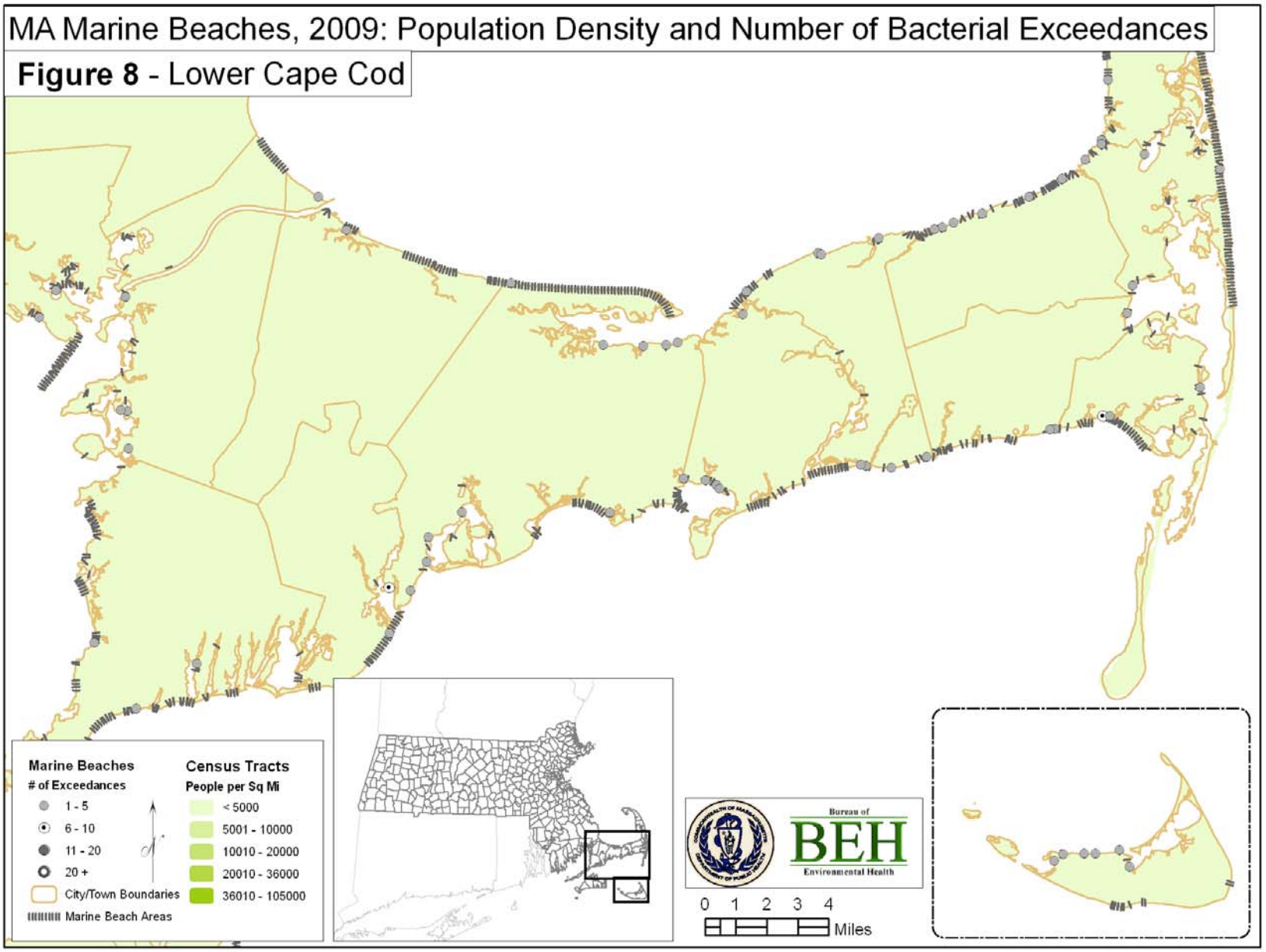


Marine Beaches
# of Exceedances
- 1 - 5
- 6 - 10
- 11 - 20
- 20 +
- City/Town Boundaries
- Marine Beach Areas

Census Tracts
People per Sq Mi
- < 5000
- 5001 - 10000
- 10010 - 20000
- 20010 - 36000
- 36010 - 105000

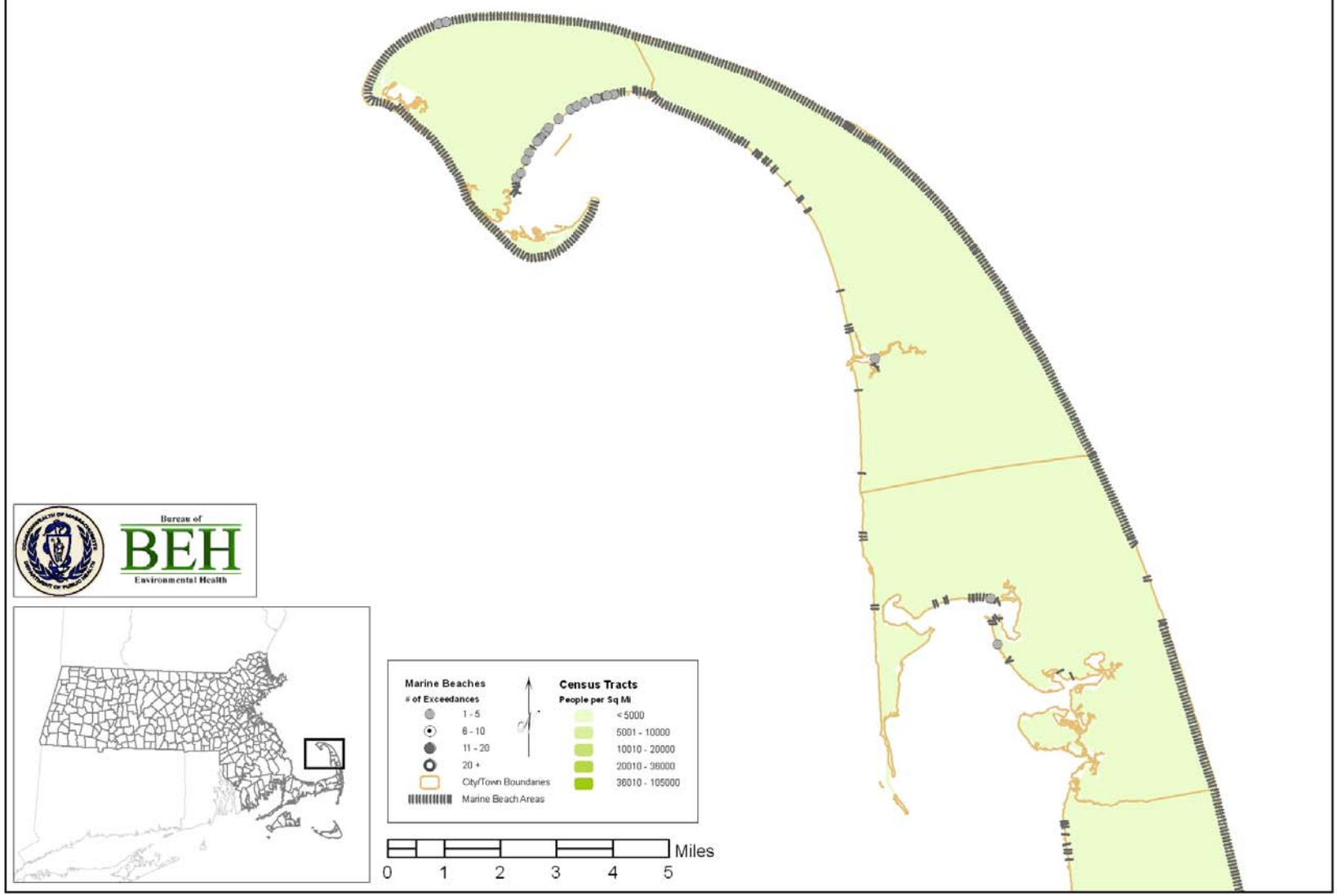
0 1 2 3 4 Miles

Bureau of BEH Environmental Health


MA Marine Beaches, 2009: Population Density and Number of Bacterial Exceedances
Figure 8 - Lower Cape Cod
Marine Beaches
# of Exceedances
1 - 5
6 - 10
11 - 20
20 +
City/Town Boundaries
Marine Beach Areas
Census Tracts
People per Sq Mi
< 5000
5001 - 10000
10010 - 20000
20010 - 36000
36010 - 105000
Bureau of
BEH
Environmental Health
0 1 2 3 4
Miles

MA Marine Beaches, 2009: Population Density and Number of Bacterial Exceedances

Figure 9 - Upper Cape Cod



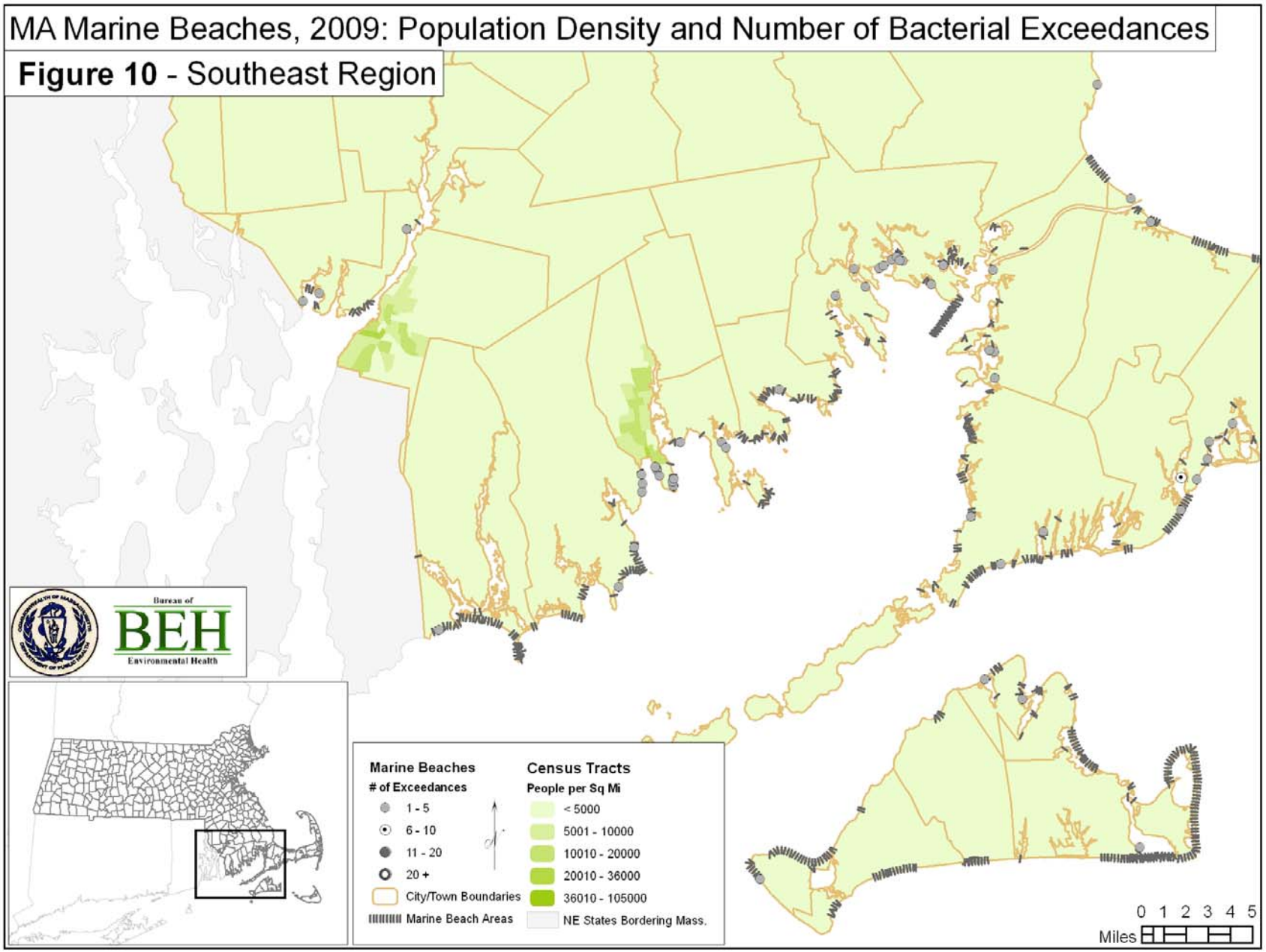
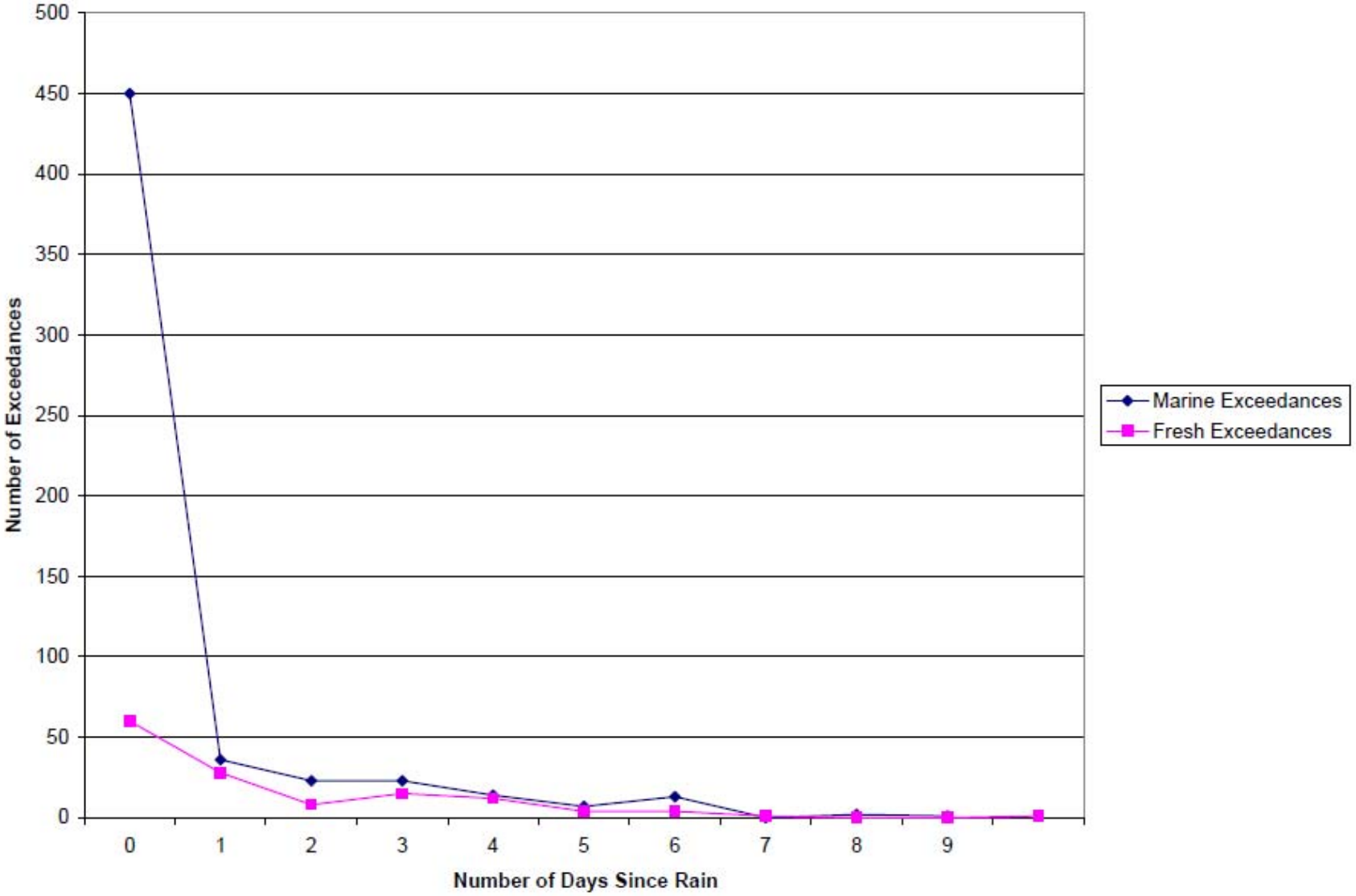

MA Marine Beaches, 2009: Population Density and Number of Bacterial Exceedances
Figure 10 - Southeast Region
Bureau of
BEH
Environmental Health
Marine Beaches
# of Exceedances
1 - 5
6 - 10
11 - 20
20 +
City/Town Boundaries
Marine Beach Areas
Census Tracts
People per Sq Mi
< 5000
5001 - 10000
10010 - 20000
20010 - 36000
36010 - 105000
NE States Bordering Mass.
0 1 2 3 4 5
Miles

Figure 11

MA Beaches (2009): Relationship Between Bacterial Exceedances and Days Since Last Rainfall



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APPENDICES

A. Massachusetts State Regulations

B. General Laws of Massachusetts

C. Massachusetts' Beach Act

D. Federal BEACH Act

E. MDPH Beach Sampling Field Data Form

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APPENDIX

A. GENERAL LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS

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GENERAL LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS

PART I.
ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT

TITLE XVI.
PUBLIC HEALTH

CHAPTER 111. PUBLIC HEALTH

DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Chapter 111: Section 5S Public bathing waters; minimum sanitation standards; testing, monitoring and analysis; regulations

Section 5S. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following meanings:--

“Bathing water”, fresh or salt water adjacent to any public bathing beach or semi-public bathing beach in the commonwealth.

“Department”, the department of public health.

“Public bathing beach”, a beach open to the general public, whether or not an entry fee is charged, that permits access to bathing waters.

“Semi-public bathing beach”, a bathing beach used in connection with a hotel, motel, trailer park, campground, apartment house, condominium, country club, youth club, school, camp or similar establishment where the primary purpose of the establishment is not the operation of the bathing beach, and where admission to the use of the bathing beach is included in the fee paid for use of the premises. A semi-public bathing beach shall also include a bathing beach operated and maintained solely for the use of members and guests of an organization that maintains such a bathing beach.

(b) The department, in consultation with local health officers, shall establish minimum sanitation standards to protect bathing waters from contamination from the following: (1) sludge deposits and solid refuse; (2) floating solid, grease or scum wastes; (3) oil, hazardous material, and heavy metals; and (4) bacteria, including but not limited to, total coliform, fecal coliform and enterococci bacteria.

(c) Such standards shall establish safe levels of human exposure to such contaminants, and shall further incorporate, at a minimum, the following provisions:--

(1) An officer or an agent of a local board of health shall test, monitor and analyze all bathing waters within its municipality. Every local board of health shall report the results from all testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters to the department. The department shall establish such reporting requirements and shall keep public records thereof. The department shall issue an annual report on the state of beach water quality

using data that has been reported to the department. The department shall make such data available to the public upon written request.

(2) The department shall determine at which sites to conduct testing and monitoring of bathing waters. The department shall consider, but not be limited to, the following factors in determining at which sites to conduct testing and monitoring of bathing waters: (i) prior testing results pursuant to this section for such bathing waters; (ii) the number of people who use the bathing beach annually; and (iii) whether the beach is located adjacent to a storm water drain, sewage, industrial and commercial wastewater discharges, or commercial, industrial and agricultural drains.

(d) The department shall determine at what frequency to conduct testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters. Testing, monitoring and analysis shall be conducted on at least a weekly basis during the bathing season, and at such times and under such conditions as shall be sufficient to protect public health and safety. The department may grant a variance from the weekly testing requirement for a public or semi-public bathing beach only where there is a documented history of no sources of pollution, both point and non-point, at the bathing beach, or where such pollution sources at the beach have been fully and completely remediated.

(e) The department shall require the posting of conspicuous warning signs to notify the public whenever there is a threat to human health or safety in bathing waters. Signs shall be posted at locations on the beach that are visible to the public in order to inform the public of the nature of the problem and the possibility of a threat to human health and safety. Signs shall be posted immediately after significant rainstorms at bathing beach locations where there has been a chronic history of violations of the department's minimum sanitation standards for bathing beaches after such rainstorms. When an officer or agent of a local board of health discovers a violation of such minimum sanitation standards, the officer or agent shall notify the department immediately, and in no event not later than 24 hours after such discovery. The local board of health shall also post signs immediately, and in no event not later than 24 hours after such a discovery.

(f) A person may request that a local board of health conduct testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters when there is a reasonable basis to believe that an alleged violation of such minimum sanitation standards established by this section has occurred. Local boards of health shall promptly review such requests and determine whether any such testing, monitoring and analysis is necessary to ensure the public health and safety in bathing waters.

(g) The owners of semi-public bathing beaches shall be required to pay for the costs of testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters adjacent to such semi-public bathing beaches.

(h) Local boards of health may enter into contractual agreements with owners of semi-public bathing beaches where the local board of health conducts testing, monitoring and analysis of such bathing waters.

(i) A municipality or state agency may adopt sanitation standards and testing, monitoring, and analysis requirements for bathing waters within its jurisdiction that are stricter than the

standards adopted by the department. In any case where a municipality or state agency adopts such stricter standards, any warning signs required by this section shall display the results of such stricter standards relative to the standards of the department.

(j) The testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters that are under the control of any state agency shall be conducted by that state agency. All such state agencies shall meet the requirements set forth by this section and the regulations promulgated by the department.

(k) The department may, subject to appropriation, award competitive grants to local boards of health in the form of a 50 per cent reimbursement for the testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters and to otherwise carry out the provisions of this section and the regulations promulgated there under. The department shall enter into a contractual agreement with a sole provider of testing services to be utilized by any state agency, and which may be utilized by any local board of health, to comply with the provisions of this section.

The department shall also ensure that the provisions of this section and the regulations promulgated there under are implemented in a cost effective manner by encouraging, where possible, regional approaches or other cost effective means of carrying out the purposes of this section.

(l) The department shall enforce the provisions of this section in accordance with the penalty and enforcement provisions of section 127A.

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B. MASSACHUSETTS STATE REGULATIONS

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105 CMR 445.000: MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR BATHING BEACHES (STATE SANITARY CODE, CHAPTER VII)

Section

445.001: Purpose

The purpose of 105 CMR 445.000 is to protect the health, safety and well-being of the users of bathing beaches, to establish acceptable standards for the operation of bathing water and to establish a procedure for informing the public of any bathing water closures.

445.002: Authority

105 CMR 445.000 is adopted under the authority of M.G.L. c. 111, ss. 3,5S and 127A.

445.003: Citation

105 CMR 445.000 shall be known and may be cited as 105 CMR 445.000: Minimum Standards for Bathing Beaches (State Sanitary Code, Chapter VII).

445.004: Scope

These regulations shall apply to all public and semi-public bathing beaches.

445.010: Definitions

The words, terms or phrases listed below, for the purpose of 105 CMR 445.000, shall be defined and interpreted as follows:

Bathing Beach means the land where access to the bathing water is provided. It shall not mean a swimming pool as defined in 105 CMR 435.000: Minimum Standards for Swimming Pools (State Sanitary Code, Chapter V).

Bathing Water means fresh or salt water adjacent to any public bathing beach or semi- public bathing beach at the location where it is used for bathing and swimming purposes.

Board of Health means the appropriate and legally designated health authority of the community, or other legally constituted governmental unit within the Commonwealth having the usual powers and duties of the board of health of a city or town, or its authorized agent or representative.

Department means the Department of Public Health.

Operator means any person who

(a) alone or jointly or severally with others has legal title to a bathing beach whether or not that person has legal title or control of the bathing water; or

(b) has care, charge or control of such bathing beach as agent or lessee of the owner or an independent contractor.

Person means any individual or any partnership, corporation, firm, association or group, or the Commonwealth, or any of its agencies, authorities or departments or any political subdivisions of the Commonwealth, including municipalities or other legal entity.

Public Bathing Beach means any bathing beach open to the general public, whether or not any entry fee is charged, that permits access to bathing waters.

Semi-Public Bathing Beach means any bathing beach that has common access and/or common use by a group or organization, which includes

(a) any bathing beach used in connection with a hotel, motel, a manufactured home park, campground, apartment house, condominium, country club, youth club, school, camp or other similar establishment where the primary purpose of the establishment is not the operation of the bathing beach, and where admission to the use of the bathing beach is included in the fee or consideration paid or given for the primary use of the premises.

(b) any bathing beach used in connection with a neighborhood or residential association

(c) any bathing beach operated solely for the use of members and guests of an organization that maintains such a bathing beach.

Private Bathing Beach means any bathing beach not considered to be a public or semi-public bathing beach.

Sanitary Survey means a written report, conducted by a Massachusetts Registered Sanitary Engineer, Certified Health Officer or Registered Sanitarian, documenting an examination of the bathing water and contiguous land masses for the purpose of identifying actual or potential sources of microbiological or chemical contamination. The sanitary survey shall also include a description of the water circulation associated with the bathing

area, the impact of bather load on the bathing beach area and any natural or artificial physical hazards.

445.020: Operation

No operator shall allow bathing or swimming in bathing water whenever in the opinion of the Board of Health or the Department the bathing water is or may be hazardous or unsafe for bathing or swimming. Bathing and swimming at public and semi-public beaches shall be limited to water areas that meet the requirements of 105 CMR 445.030. Any operator of a public or semi-public bathing beach shall comply with the requirements of 105 CMR 445.000.

(A) After May 15, 2010 no bathing beach shall be operated without a permanent sign posted at the entrance to each parking lot and/or each entrance to the beach. At minimum, the sign must state the dates of operation, the name and telephone number for the beach operator, permit number, and note that the beach is not monitored for bacteria outside of the specified date range.

(B) The bathing beach operator is responsible for providing and maintaining the sign required in 105 CMR 445.020 (A).

445.030: Bathing Water Quality

Bathing or swimming shall not be permitted in any bathing water where the quality of the water does not meet the standards established in 105 CMR 445.030(A), 445.030(B), or 445.030(C), and no bathing or swimming shall be allowed when the bathing water is determined by the Board of Health or the Department to be unfit or so subject to contamination as to constitute a menace to health. Bathing or swimming shall not be permitted in bathing waters when:

(A) Physical Quality.

(1) Sludge deposits, solid refuse, floating waste solids, oils, grease or scum are present; or

(2) There are safety hazards including, but not limited to, fast currents, sharp drop-offs or an unstable bottom in the wading area(s) or lack of water clarity.

(B) Bacteriological Quality.

(1) The results of a sanitary survey or other information indicates that sewage or other hazardous substances may be discharged into the bathing water to a degree considered by the Board of Health or the Department to be of public health significance; or

(2) Epidemiological evidence discloses the prevalence of an infectious disease or other health condition which is considered to be related to the use of the bathing water and is considered by the Board of Health or the Department to be of public health significance; or

(3) The bacteriological quality of the bathing water is unacceptable as determined by laboratory analysis for the appropriate indicator organisms specified in 105 CMR 445.031 and exceeds the standards established therein.

(C) Oil. Hazardous Materials, or Heavy Metals.

(1) Oil, hazardous materials, or heavy metals are present in excess of surface water quality standards or guidelines established by the United

States Environmental Protection Agency or the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

445.031: Indicator Organisms

(A) For marine water, the indicator organism shall be Enterococci.

(1) No single Enterococci sample shall exceed 104 colonies per 100 ml. and the geometric mean of the most recent five (5) Enterococci levels within the same bathing season shall not exceed 35 colonies per 100 ml.

(B) For fresh water, the indicator organisms shall be *E. coli* or Enterococci.

(1) No single *E. coli* sample shall exceed 235 colonies per 100 ml. and the geometric mean of the most recent five *E. coli* samples within the same bathing season shall not exceed 126 colonies per 100 ml; or

(2) No single Enterococci sample shall exceed 61 colonies per 100 ml. and the geometric mean of the most recent five (5) Enterococci samples within the same bathing season shall not exceed 33 colonies per 100 ml.

445.032 Collection of Bathing Water Samples

(A) Location.

(1) The Board of Health, for public and semi-public bathing beaches that are not operated by the Commonwealth shall approve sampling locations at each bathing beach in its jurisdiction. (2) The Department, for bathing beaches that are operated by the Commonwealth, shall approve sampling locations at each bathing beach in its jurisdiction.

(3) Samples of bathing water shall be taken at locations within areas of greatest bather load.

(4) Additional samples shall also be obtained at any critical location subject to contamination from business developments, dwellings, streams, sewer outfall pipes or other sources.

(5) At locations where there are multiple beach operators within 500 meters of shoreline, the beach operators may designate a single sampling location, known as a surrogate sampling point, which will provide sufficient protection to public health as approved by the local Board of Health. These locations must meet the following criteria:

(a) Bathing beaches must not be physically separated from the surrogate sampling point by natural or man-made formations. These may include:

(I) embayments or peninsulas

(II) streams, rivers, or creeks

(III) jetties or other bounding structures

(IV) stormwater or combined-sewer overflow outfalls

(b) At any time the results of a bacterial test exceed the levels in 105 CMR 445.030, all beach operators using a surrogate sampling point must comply with 445.040.

(c) Each beach operator utilizing a surrogate sampling point will be equally responsible for the costs of testing, monitoring and analysis.

(d) Thirty days prior to the beginning of the beach season, the local Board of Health must notify the Department of the beach operators utilizing a surrogate sampling point, their location, and the location of the surrogate sampling point.

(e) The local Board of Health or the Department may require any or all of the beach operators to discontinue the use of surrogate sampling points at any time the bathing waters are found to be unfit, subject to contamination as to constitute a menace to public health, or do not provide sufficient protection to protect public health.

(B) Sample Collection. Samples shall be obtained in accordance with the procedures recommended by the most recent edition of the Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Waste Water of the American Public Health Association or as approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

(C) Frequency.

(1) The Board of Health, its agent, or any other authorized person shall collect the bacteriologic samples:

(a) Within the five days immediately preceding the opening of the bathing season; and

(b) At least weekly during the bathing season at a time and day approved by the Board of Health or the Department; and

(c) Prior to reopening a beach after closure due to the presence or suspected presence of any of the conditions specified in 105 CMR 445.030(B).

(2) Testing for oil, hazardous materials, or heavy metals shall only be required if the operator, the Board of Health, or the Department has information indicating possible contamination of the bathing beach or bathing waters from oil, hazardous materials or heavy metals.

(D) Field Data. Physical conditions at the time of sampling shall be noted and recorded on a form provided by the Department.

(E) Personnel. Samples shall be taken by the Board of Health, the Department, their duly authorized representatives or other qualified persons as determined by the Board of Health or the Department.

445.033: Laboratory Analysis and Reporting

(A) Laboratory Analysis. -Laboratory analysis of bathing water as required by 105 CMR 445.000 shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent edition of the Standard Methods for Examination of Water and Waste Water of the American Public Health Association or as approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

(B) Reporting.

(1) Routine Reporting by Operators. Any operator or authorized agent of a public bathing beach, except public bathing beaches operated by the Commonwealth, and any operator or authorized agent of a semi-public bathing beach shall report the certified results of all testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing water to the Board of Health within five (5) days of receipt of the results from the laboratory.

(2) Reporting by Operators of Levels Exceeding the Established Standards. Any operator or authorized agent of a public or semi-public bathing beach shall immediately and in no event later than 12 hours after the results are

validated report to the Board of Health the results of all testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing water found to exceed the standards established in 105 CMR 445.030.

(3) Reporting by the Board of Health. The Board of Health or its authorized agent shall report the results of all testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing water to the Department no later than October 31 of each year.

445.034 Bathing Beaches Operated by the Commonwealth

State agencies that own or operate a bathing beach shall conduct or cause to be conducted all testing, monitoring, and analysis of bathing water at such bathing beach in accordance with these regulations. If the results of such testing, monitoring and analysis are found to exceed the standards established in 105 CMR 445.030, state agencies shall immediately, and in no event later than 12 hours, report the results of such testing, monitoring and analysis to the Department and the Board of Health in the community where the bathing beach is located. All other results shall be reported to the Department no later than October 31 of each year.

445.035: Sampling and Analysis at Semi-Public Beaches

(A) The operators of semi-public bathing beaches shall pay for the costs of testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters adjacent to such semi-public bathing beaches.

(B) Operators of semi-public bathing beaches may enter into contractual agreements with the Board of Health to have the testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing water conducted by the Board of Health, the Department or other qualified persons as determined by the Board of Health or the Department.

445.036: Public Request for Testing

Any person may request that the Board of Health, or in the case of a bathing beach operated by the Commonwealth, the state agency or the Department, conduct testing, monitoring, and analysis of public and semi-public bathing waters when there is reasonable basis to believe that an alleged violation of 105 CMR 445.000 has occurred. The Board of Health or the Department, as appropriate, shall promptly review such requests and determine whether any such testing, monitoring, and analysis is necessary to ensure the public health and safety of bathing waters.

445.040: Posting and Reopening Notifications

(A) Posting. Whenever the bathing water quality does not meet the requirements of 105 CMR 445.030, 105 CMR 445.032, or after any significant rainstorm at a bathing beach where there has been a history of violations of the water quality requirements contained in 105 CMR 445.030, the Board of Health, its agent, or any other authorized person shall immediately, and in no event later than 24 hours, notify the Department, and post or cause to be posted, a sign, or signs, at the entrance to each parking lot and each entrance to the beach stating:

WARNING! NO SWIMMING
SWIMMING MAY CAUSE ILLNESS

and a graphic depiction of a swimmer in a red circle with a diagonal hatch mark. The sign shall also contain the reason for the warning, the date of the posting and the name and telephone number of the board of health. For conditions solely related to physical hazards, the word “injury” may be substituted for “illness” in the required notification.

(B) Reopening. Prior to reopening bathing water posted due to a violation or an assumption of a violation of the standards established in 105 CMR 445.030(B), the Board of Health, its agent, or any other authorized person shall verify that the certified results of the laboratory analysis are less than the standard specified in 105 CMR 445.031. Prior to reopening bathing water posted due to a violation or an assumption of a violation of the standards established in 105 CMR 445.030(A) or 105 CMR 445.030(C), the Board of Health, its agent, or any other authorized person shall confirm by analytic testing or other verifiable means that conditions no longer constitute a threat to human health or safety. The operator of any state operated bathing beach shall notify the Department and the Board of Health within 24 hours, or the next business day, of the reopening of the bathing water.

445.100: Variance

(A) The Board of Health may grant a variance from the provisions of 105 CMR 445.000 for any public or semi-public bathing beach not operated by the Commonwealth. The Department may grant a variance for any bathing beach operated by the Commonwealth. In granting a variance, the Board of Health and the Department shall review available epidemiological data and a written sanitary survey of the bathing beach, as provided by the operator. The survey shall include:

(1) All possible sources of contamination, both bacterial and chemical, on the watershed tributary to the bathing beach including the location and volume of:

(a) sewage and industrial wastewater discharges;
(b) storm water overflows;
(c) bird and animal populations; and
(d) commercial and agricultural drainage.

(2) The volume and quality of the diluting water, water depth, water surface area, tides and confluence of tributaries, water currents and prevailing winds.

(B) Any variance granted by the Board of Health shall specify the required bacteriological testing schedule, provided that the frequency of bacteriological testing shall not be less than once prior to the bathing season and at least every 30 days thereafter throughout the duration of the bathing season.

(C) Any variance granted by a Board of Health or the Department shall expire:

(1) at any time as determined by the Board of Health or the Department, but in no instance greater than four years, at which time the operator may apply for an extension, or

(2) at any time the results of bacterial testing exceed the levels specified in 105 CMR 445.031.

(D) No variance from the requirement of weekly testing shall be granted until the applicant provides the Board of Health or the Department with water quality data collected for at least two complete and consecutive bathing seasons.

(E) In granting a variance, the Board of Health or the Department must determine that the enforcement of 105 CMR 445.000 would not serve a significant public health purpose and that the granting of the variance will not conflict with the intent and spirit of these minimum standards. Any variance or other modification authorized to be made by these regulations may be subject to such qualification, revocation, suspension, or other expiration as the Board of Health or the Department expresses in its grant. A variance or other modification authorized to be made by this regulation may otherwise be revoked, modified, or suspended in whole or in part, only after the holder thereof has been notified in writing and has been given the opportunity to be heard.

445.101: Variance to be in Writing

(A) Any variance granted by the Board of Health or the Department shall be in writing. Any denial for a variance shall also be in writing and shall contain a brief statement of the reasons for denial. A copy of each variance shall be conspicuously posted for 30 days following its issuance and shall, while it is in effect, be available to the public at all reasonable hours in the office of the clerk of the community, or in the office of the Board of Health and in the case of a variance by the Department, at the Department.

(B) The Board of Health shall submit to the Department a notice of the intent to grant a variance. The Department shall approve, disapprove, or modify the variance within 45 days from receipt thereof. If the Department fails to comment within 45 days, its approval shall be presumed. No alteration of any requirement in these regulations shall be made under any variance until the Department approves it or 45 days has elapsed without comment, unless the Board of Health certifies in writing to the Department that an emergency exists.

445.300: Permit - Issuance

(A) Permit Required to Operate. After May 28, 2010 no person shall commence the operation of, or continue to operate, a bathing beach unless the operator is the holder of a valid permit issued by the Board of Health or the Department.

(B) Application. By no later than April 26, 2010, any person currently operating a bathing beach desiring to continue operating said beach shall file a written application for a permit with the Board of Health, on forms prepared by the Department and obtained from the Board of Health. Any information as required by the Board of Health and payment of any fee required by local bylaw, ordinance or regulation shall accompany the application.

(C) Permit. Upon receipt of a completed application form and any applicable fee, the Board of Health shall review the information to determine if the beach meets the criteria established in 105 CMR 445.000. If so, the Board of Health shall make a determination within 30 days for existing applicants or 60 days for new applicants whether to issue a permit to the operator or the proposed operator to operate a bathing beach, on a form provided by the Department.

(D) Expiration and Renewal of Permit.

(1) A permit shall expire no later than two years from the date issued.

(2) A bathing beach permit may be renewed by applying at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the permit. Renewal application forms prepared by the Department shall be obtained from the Board of Health.
(3) Upon receipt of a completed renewal application form and any applicable fee, the Board of Health shall issue a renewal permit, provided that the conditions for operation set forth in 105 CMR 445.000 are satisfied. The Board of Health may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a permit to an operator who is in repeated non-compliance with 105 CMR 445.000.
(4) If a permit expires while a timely filed application for renewal is pending, the bathing beach shall continue to operate under the expired permit until a new permit is issued or the renewal application is denied.

445.400: General Administration

The provisions of 105 CMR 400.000 shall govern the administration and enforcement of 105 CMR 445.000.

445.500: Severability

In the event that any section of 105 CMR 445.000 is found to be invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining sections shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this regulation are hereby declared severable.

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C. FEDERAL BEACH ACT

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BEACHES ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND COASTAL HEALTH ACT OF 2000

Public Law 106–284
106th Congress

An Act

Oct. 10, 2000
[H.R. 999]

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to improve the quality of coastal recreation waters, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2000.
Intergovernmental relations.
Public health and safety.
33 USC 1251 note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. ADOPTION OF COASTAL RECREATION WATER QUALITY CRITERIA AND STANDARDS BY STATES.

Section 303 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1313) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(i) COASTAL RECREATION WATER QUALITY CRITERIA.—

Deadlines.

"(1) ADOPTION BY STATES.—

"(A) INITIAL CRITERIA AND STANDARDS.—Not later than 42 months after the date of the enactment of this subsection, each State having coastal recreation waters shall adopt and submit to the Administrator water quality criteria and standards for the coastal recreation waters of the State for those pathogens and pathogen indicators for which the Administrator has published criteria under section 304(a).

"(B) NEW OR REVISED CRITERIA AND STANDARDS.—Not later than 36 months after the date of publication by the Administrator of new or revised water quality criteria under section 304(a)(9), each State having coastal recreation waters shall adopt and submit to the Administrator new or revised water quality standards for the coastal recreation waters of the State for all pathogens and pathogen indicators to which the new or revised water quality criteria are applicable.

"(2) FAILURE OF STATES TO ADOPT.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—If a State fails to adopt water quality criteria and standards in accordance with paragraph (1)(A) that are as protective of human health as the criteria for pathogens and pathogen indicators for coastal recreation waters published by the Administrator, the Administrator shall promptly propose regulations for the State setting forth revised or new water quality standards for pathogens and pathogen indicators described in paragraph (1)(A) for coastal recreation waters of the State.

"(B) EXCEPTION.—If the Administrator proposes regulations for a State described in subparagraph (A) under subsection (c)(4)(B), the Administrator shall publish any revised or new standard under this subsection not later than 42 months after the date of the enactment of this subsection. Publication.

"(3) APPLICABILITY.—Except as expressly provided by this subsection, the requirements and procedures of subsection (c) apply to this subsection, including the requirement in subsection (c)(2)(A) that the criteria protect public health and welfare.".

SEC. 3. REVISIONS TO WATER QUALITY CRITERIA.

(a) STUDIES CONCERNING PATHOGEN INDICATORS IN COASTAL RECREATION WATERS.—Section 104 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1254) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(v) STUDIES CONCERNING PATHOGEN INDICATORS IN COASTAL RECREATION WATERS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this subsection, after consultation and in cooperation with appropriate Federal, State, tribal, and local officials (including local health officials), the Administrator shall initiate, and, not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this subsection, shall complete, in cooperation with the heads of other Federal agencies, studies to provide additional information for use in developing— Deadlines.

"(1) an assessment of potential human health risks resulting from exposure to pathogens in coastal recreation waters, including nongastrointestinal effects;

"(2) appropriate and effective indicators for improving detection in a timely manner in coastal recreation waters of the presence of pathogens that are harmful to human health;

"(3) appropriate, accurate, expeditious, and cost-effective methods (including predictive models) for detecting in a timely manner in coastal recreation waters the presence of pathogens that are harmful to human health; and

"(4) guidance for State applica 104 the criteria for pathogens and pathogen indicators to be published under section 304(a)(9) to account for the diversity of geographic and aquatic conditions.".

(b) REVISED CRITERIA.—Section 304(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1314(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(9) REVISED CRITERIA FOR COASTAL RECREATION WATERS.— Deadlines.

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, after consultation and in cooperation with appropriate Federal, State, tribal, and local officials (including local health officials), the Administrator shall publish new or revised water quality criteria for pathogens and pathogen indicators (including a revised list of testing methods, as appropriate), based on the results of the studies conducted under section 104(v), for the purpose of protecting human health in coastal recreation waters. Publication.

"(B) REVIEWS.—Not later than the date that is 5 years after the date of publication of water quality criteria under this paragraph, and at least once every 5 years thereafter,

the Administrator shall review and, as necessary, revise the water quality criteria.".

SEC. 4. COASTAL RECREATION WATER QUALITY MONITORING AND NOTIFICATION.

Title IV of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1341 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

33 USC 1346.

"SEC. 406. COASTAL RECREATION WATER QUALITY MONITORING AND NOTIFICATION.

Deadline. Publication.

"(a) MONITORING AND NOTIFICATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this section, after consultation and in cooperation with appropriate Federal, State, tribal, and local officials (including local health officials), and after providing public notice and an opportunity for comment, the Administrator shall publish performance criteria for—

"(A) monitoring and assessment (including specifying available methods for monitoring) of coastal recreation waters adjacent to beaches or similar points of access that are used by the public for attainment of applicable water quality standards for pathogens and pathogen indicators; and

"(B) the prompt notification of the public, local governments, and the Administrator of any exceeding of or likelihood of exceeding applicable water quality standards for coastal recreation waters described in subparagraph (A).

"(2) LEVEL OF PROTECTION.—The performance criteria referred to in paragraph (1) shall provide that the activities described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of that paragraph shall be carried out as necessary for the protection of public health and safety.

"(b) PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may make grants to States and local governments to develop and implement programs for monitoring and notification for coastal recreation waters adjacent to beaches or similar points of access that are used by the public.

"(2) LIMITATIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may award a grant to a State or a local government to implement a monitoring and notification program if—

"(i) the program is consistent with the performance criteria published by the Administrator under subsection (a);

"(ii) the State or local government prioritizes the use of grant funds for particular coastal recreation waters based on the use of the water and the risk to human health presented by pathogens or pathogen indicators;

"(iii) the State or local government makes available to the Administrator the factors used to prioritize the use of funds under clause (ii);

"(iv) the State or local government provides a list of discrete areas of coastal recreation waters that are subject to the program for monitoring and notification for which the grant is provided that specifies any coastal recreation waters for which fiscal constraints

will prevent consistency with the performance criteria under subsection (a); and

"(v) the public is provided an opportunity to review the program through a process that provides for public notice and an opportunity for comment.

"(B) GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—The Administrator may make a grant to a local government under this subsection for implementation of a monitoring and notification program only if, after the 1-year period beginning on the date of publication of performance criteria under subsection (a)(1), the Administrator determines that the State is not implementing a program that meets the requirements of this subsection, regardless of whether the State has received a grant under this subsection.

"(3) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—

"(A) REPORT.—A State recipient of a grant under this subsection shall submit to the Administrator, in such format and at such intervals as the Administrator determines to be appropriate, a report that describes—

"(i) data collected as part of the program for monitoring and notification as described in subsection (c); and

"(ii) actions taken to notify the public when water quality standards are exceeded.

"(B) DELEGATION.—A State recipient of a grant under this subsection shall identify each local government to which the State has delegated or intends to delegate responsibility for implementing a monitoring and notification program consistent with the performance criteria published under subsection (a) (including any coastal recreation waters for which the authority to implement a monitoring and notification program would be subject to the delegation).

"(4) FEDERAL SHARE.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, through grants awarded under this section, may pay up to 100 percent of the costs of developing and implementing a program for monitoring and notification under this subsection.

"(B) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share of the costs of developing and implementing a monitoring and notification program may be—

"(i) in an amount not to exceed 50 percent, as determined by the Administrator in consultation with State, tribal, and local government representatives; and

"(ii) provided in cash or in kind.

"(c) CONTENT OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS.—As a condition of receipt of a grant under subsection (b), a State or local government program for monitoring and notification under this section shall identify—

"(1) lists of coastal recreation waters in the State, including coastal recreation waters adjacent to beaches or similar points of access that are used by the public;

"(2) in the case of a State program for monitoring and notification, the process by which the State may delegate to local governments responsibility for implementing the monitoring and notification program;

"(3) the frequency and location of monitoring and assessment of coastal recreation waters based on—

"(A) the periods of recreational use of the waters;

"(B) the nature and extent of use during certain periods;

"(C) the proximity of the waters to known point sources and nonpoint sources of pollution; and

"(D) any effect of storm events on the waters;

"(4)(A) the methods to be used for detecting levels of pathogens and pathogen indicators that are harmful to human health; and

"(B) the assessment procedures for identifying short-term increases in pathogens and pathogen indicators that are harmful to human health in coastal recreation waters (including increases in relation to storm events);

"(5) measures for prompt communication of the occurrence, nature, location, pollutants involved, and extent of any exceeding of, or likelihood of exceeding, applicable water quality standards for pathogens and pathogen indicators to—

"(A) the Administrator, in such form as the Administrator determines to be appropriate; and

"(B) a designated official of a local government having jurisdiction over land adjoining the coastal recreation waters for which the failure to meet applicable standards is identified;

"(6) measures for the posting of signs at beaches or similar points of access, or functionally equivalent communication measures that are sufficient to give notice to the public that the coastal recreation waters are not meeting or are not expected to meet applicable water quality standards for pathogens and pathogen indicators; and

"(7) measures that inform the public of the potential risks associated with water contact activities in the coastal recreation waters that do not meet applicable water quality standards.

Deadline.

"(d) FEDERAL AGENCY PROGRAMS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this section, each Federal agency that has jurisdiction over coastal recreation waters adjacent to beaches or similar points of access that are used by the public shall develop and implement, through a process that provides for public notice and an opportunity for comment, a monitoring and notification program for the coastal recreation waters that—

"(1) protects the public health and safety;

"(2) is consistent with the performance criteria published under subsection (a);

Reports.

"(3) includes a completed report on the information specified in subsection (b)(3)(A), to be submitted to the Administrator; and

"(4) addresses the matters specified in subsection (c) .

Public information.

"(e) DATABASE.—The Administrator shall establish, maintain, and make available to the public by electronic and other means a national coastal recreation water pollution occurrence database that provides—

"(1) the data reported to the Administrator under subsections (b)(3)(A)(i) and (d)(3); and

"(2) other information concerning pathogens and pathogen indicators in coastal recreation waters that—

"(A) is made available to the Administrator by a State or local government, from a coastal water quality monitoring program of the State or local government; and

"(B) the Administrator determines should be included.

"(f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR MONITORING FLOATABLE MATERIAL.—The Administrator shall provide technical assistance to States and local governments for the development of assessment and monitoring procedures for floatable material to protect public health and safety in coastal recreation waters.

"(g) LIST OF WATERS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than 18 months after the date of publication of performance criteria under subsection (a), based on information made available to the Administrator, the Administrator shall identify, and maintain a list of, discrete coastal recreation waters adjacent to beaches or similar points of access that are used by the public that— Deadline.

"(A) specifies any waters described in this paragraph that are subject to a monitoring and notification program consistent with the performance criteria established under subsection (a); and

"(B) specifies any waters described in this paragraph for which there is no monitoring and notification program (including waters for which fiscal constraints will prevent the State or the Administrator from performing monitoring and notification consistent with the performance criteria established under subsection (a)).

"(2) AVAILABILITY.—The Administrator shall make the list described in paragraph (1) available to the public through— Public information.

"(A) publication in the Federal Register; and Federal Register, publication.

"(B) electronic media.

"(3) UPDATES.—The Administrator shall update the list described in paragraph (1) periodically as new information becomes available.

"(h) EPA IMPLEMENTATION.—In the case of a State that has no program for monitoring and notification that is consistent with the performance criteria published under subsection (a) after the last day of the 3-year period beginning on the date on which the Administrator lists waters in the State under subsection (g)(1)(B), the Administrator shall conduct a monitoring and notification program for the listed waters based on a priority ranking established by the Administrator using funds appropriated for grants under subsection (i)—

"(1) to conduct monitoring and notification; and

"(2) for related salaries, expenses, and travel.

"(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated for making grants under subsection (b), including implementation of monitoring and notification programs by the Administrator under subsection (h), $30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2005.".

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

Section 502 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1362) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(21) COASTAL RECREATION WATERS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'coastal recreation waters' means—

"(i) the Great Lakes; and

"(ii) marine coastal waters (including coastal estuaries) that are designated under section 303(c) by a State for use for swimming, bathing, surfing, or similar water contact activities.

"(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term 'coastal recreation waters' does not include—

"(i) inland waters; or

"(ii) waters upstream of the mouth of a river or stream having an unimpaired natural connection with the open sea.

"(22) FLOATABLE MATERIAL.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'floatable material' means any foreign matter that may float or remain suspended in the water column.

"(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'floatable material' includes—

"(i) plastic;

"(ii) aluminum cans;

"(iii) wood products;

"(iv) bottles; and

"(v) paper products.

"(23) PATHOGEN INDICATOR.—The term 'pathogen indicator' means a substance that indicates the potential for human infectious disease.".

SEC. 6. INDIAN TRIBES.

Section 518(e) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1377(e)) is amended by striking "and 404" and inserting "404, and 406".

33 USC 1375a.

SEC. 7. REPORT.

Deadline.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 4 years thereafter, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

(1) recommendations concerning the need for additional water quality criteria for pathogens and pathogen indicators and other actions that should be taken to improve the quality of coastal recreation waters;

(2) an evaluation of Federal, State, and local efforts to implement this Act, including the amendments made by this Act; and

(3) recommendations on improvements to methodologies and techniques for monitoring of coastal recreation waters.

(b) COORDINATION.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may coordinate the report under this section with other reporting requirements under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.).

SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the provisions of this Act, including the amendments made by this Act, for which amounts are not otherwise specifically authorized to be appropriated, such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2005.

Approved October 10, 2000.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 999 (S. 522):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 106–98 (Comm. on Transportation and Infrastructure).
SENATE REPORTS: No. 106–366 accompanying S. 522 (Comm. on Environment and Public Works).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:
Vol. 145 (1999): Apr. 22, considered and passed House.
Vol. 146 (2000): Sept. 21, considered and passed Senate, amended.
Sept. 26, House concurred in Senate amendment.
WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 36 (2000):
Oct. 10, Presidential statement.

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D. MASSACHUSETTS' BEACH ACT

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Chapter 248 of the Acts of 2000

AN ACT RELATIVE TO MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC BATHING WATERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 5R the following section:-

Section 5S. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following meanings:-

"Bathing water", fresh or salt water adjacent to any public bathing beach or semi-public bathing beach in the commonwealth.

"Department", the department of public health.

"Public bathing beach", a beach open to the general public, whether or not an entry fee is charged, that permits access to bathing waters.

"Semi-public bathing beach", a bathing beach used in connection with a hotel, motel, trailer park, campground, apartment house, condominium, country club, youth club, school, camp or similar establishment where the primary purpose of the establishment is not the operation of the bathing beach, and where admission to the use of the bathing beach is included in the fee paid for use of the premises. A semi-public bathing beach shall also include a bathing beach operated and maintained solely for the use of members and guests of an organization that maintains such a bathing beach.

(b) The department, in consultation with local health officers, shall establish minimum sanitation standards to protect bathing waters from contamination from the following: (1) sludge deposits and solid refuse; (2) floating solid, grease or scum wastes; (3) oil, hazardous material, and heavy metals; and (4) bacteria, including but not limited to, total coliform, fecal coliform and enterococci bacteria.

(c) Such standards shall establish safe levels of human exposure to such contaminants, and shall further incorporate, at a minimum, the following provisions:-

(1) An officer or an agent of a local board of health shall test, monitor and analyze all bathing waters within its municipality. Every local board of health shall report the results from all testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters to the department. The department shall establish such reporting requirements and shall keep public records thereof. The department shall issue an annual report on the state of beach water quality using data that has been reported to the department. The department shall make such data available to the public upon written request.

(2) The department shall determine at which sites to conduct testing and monitoring of bathing waters. The department shall consider, but not be limited to, the following factors in determining at which sites to conduct testing and monitoring of bathing waters: (i) prior testing results pursuant to this section for such bathing waters; (ii) the number of people who use the bathing beach annually; and (iii) whether the beach is located adjacent to a storm water drain, sewage, industrial and commercial wastewater discharges, or commercial, industrial and agricultural drains.

(d) The department shall determine at what frequency to conduct testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters. Testing, monitoring and analysis shall be conducted on at least a weekly basis during the bathing season, and at such times and under such conditions as shall be sufficient to protect public health and safety. The department may grant a variance from the weekly testing requirement for a public or semi-public bathing beach only where there is a documented history of no sources of pollution, both point and non-point, at the bathing beach, or where such pollution sources at the beach have been fully and completely remediated.

(e) The department shall require the posting of conspicuous warning signs to notify the public whenever there is a threat to human health or safety in bathing waters. Signs shall be posted at locations on the beach that are visible to the public in order to inform the public of the nature of the problem and the possibility of a threat to human health and safety. Signs shall be posted immediately after significant rainstorms at bathing beach locations where there has been a chronic history of violations of the department's minimum sanitation standards for bathing beaches after such rainstorms. When an officer or agent of a local board of health discovers a violation of such minimum sanitation standards, the officer or agent shall notify the department immediately, and in no event not later than 24 hours after such discovery. The local board of health shall also post signs immediately, and in no event not later than 24 hours after such a discovery.

(f) A person may request that a local board of health conduct testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters when there is a reasonable basis to believe that an alleged violation of such minimum sanitation standards established by this section has occurred. Local boards of health shall promptly review such requests and determine whether any such testing, monitoring and analysis is necessary to ensure the public health and safety in bathing waters.

(g) The owners of semi-public bathing beaches shall be required to pay for the costs of testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters adjacent to such semi-public bathing beaches.

(h) Local boards of health may enter into contractual agreements with owners of semi-public bathing beaches where the local board of health conducts testing, monitoring and analysis of such bathing waters.

(i) A municipality or state agency may adopt sanitation standards and testing, monitoring, and analysis requirements for bathing waters within its jurisdiction that are stricter than the standards adopted by the department. In any case where a municipality

or state agency adopts such stricter standards, any warning signs required by this section shall display the results of such stricter standards relative to the standards of the department.

(j) The testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters that are under the control of any state agency shall be conducted by that state agency. All such state agencies shall meet the requirements set forth by this section and the regulations promulgated by the department.

(k) The department may, subject to appropriation, award competitive grants to local boards of health in the form of a 50 per cent reimbursement for the testing, monitoring and analysis of bathing waters and to otherwise carry out the provisions of this section and the regulations promulgated there under. The department shall enter into a contractual agreement with a sole provider of testing services to be utilized by any state agency, and which may be utilized by any local board of health, to comply with the provisions of this section.
The department shall also ensure that the provisions of this section and the regulations promulgated there under are implemented in a cost effective manner by encouraging, where possible, regional approaches or other cost effective means of carrying out the purposes of this section.

(l) The department shall enforce the provisions of this section in accordance with the penalty and enforcement provisions of section 127A.

SECTION 2. The department of public health shall promulgate the regulations required by section 5S of chapter 111 of the General Laws not later than March 1, 2001.

SECTION 3. The division of local mandates, in the office of the state auditor, through the legislative review program, pursuant to the last paragraph of section 6B of chapter 11 of the General Laws, shall make a comprehensive report on sections 1 and 2 of this act. The report shall determine the financial impact on cities and towns of such sections and shall prepare a preliminary cost study and cost benefit analysis. The report shall be filed with the clerk of the House of Representatives not later than December 1, 2000.

SECTION 4. Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall take effect on February 1, 2001.
Approved August 11, 2000.

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APPENDIX

E. MDPH BEACH SAMPLING DATA FORM

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Beach Sampling Field Data Form

Town/City of Collection: **Date Collected:** **Collected By:**	**Time Delivered to Lab:** **Delivered By:** **Relinquished To:**

Instructions: Collect sample(s) in areas of greatest bather load and at locations subject to contamination at a uniform depth of 3 feet. Collect samples 12 inches below water surface. Do not collect samples within 6 inches of bottom.

Sample ID	**Sample Location** (Note beach and sampling location)	**Marine or Fresh**	**Sample Time**	**Water Clarity**		**Water Temp** (°F)	**Days Since Rain** ('0' if w/in 24 hrs.)	**Bather Density (in water)** (Circle appropriate # range)				**Observations of bathing water**
				Clear	Cloudy/Murky			0-10	11-20	20-50	>50	
				Clear	Cloudy/Murky			0-10	11-20	20-50	>50	
				Clear	Cloudy/Murky			0-10	11-20	20-50	>50	
				Clear	Cloudy/Murky			0-10	11-20	20-50	>50	
				Clear	Cloudy/Murky			0-10	11-20	20-50	>50	
				Clear	Cloudy/Murky			0-10	11-20	20-50	>50	
				Clear	Cloudy/Murky			0-10	11-20	20-50	>50	
				Clear	Cloudy/Murky			0-10	11-20	20-50	>50	
				Clear	Cloudy/Murky			0-10	11-20	20-50	>50	
				Clear	Cloudy/Murky			0-10	11-20	20-50	>50	

Observations: **T**=Trash **WS**=Waste Solids **SD**=Sludge Deposit **O**=Oils **A**=Algae **F**=Fish die-offs **J**=Jellyfish **B**=Birds **D**=Dogs **N**=None

Current Weather Condition: **C**loudy/Overcast **S**unny **R**ainy **F**oggy **W**indy **Air Temp:** ________°F **Wind Direction:** _________

Comments: ____

____

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Please Note: This form MUST be utilized upon collection of samples and filled out in its entirety. For reporting purposes, a copy must be submitted to MDPH with any lab results.