



Guam Environmental Protection Agency
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GUAM
BEACH WATCH
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PLEASE RELEASE WITHIN 24 HOURS

May 18, 2012

Contact: Environmental Monitoring and Analytical Services Division
at 475-1656 OR 475-1658/9

KILL DATE OF THIS PSA IS ONE WEEK AFTER RELEASE

RECREATIONAL BEACH ADVISORY REPORT

Number of beach closures: 1

ATTENTION: West Hagåtña Bay is currently closed due to the intended or continued use of the old fractured outfall at the Hagåtña Sewage Treatment Plant as emergency and/or bypass overflow. The area closed includes Hagåtña Boat Basin & Channel and the West Hagåtña Beach Park.

Number of beach advisories: 5

The results of samples taken by the Guam Environmental Protection Agency on Thursday, May 17, 2012, identified that the following recreational waters were polluted above the accepted bacteriological standards:

AGAT	Togcha Beach - near Namu River, Bangi Beach
UMATAC	Toguan Bay
MERIZO	Merizo Pier at Mamaon Channel
INARAJAN	Inarajan Bay
(Place names as spelled in United States Geological Survey [USGS] maps.)	

No harvesting or consumption of seaweed, fish or marine organisms is allowed at Tanguisson Beach.

Swimming, fishing or playing in unsafe waters may result in minor illnesses such as sore throats or diarrhea. It might also result in more serious illnesses such as meningitis, encephalitis, or severe gastroenteritis. Children, the elderly and people with weakened immune systems have a greater chance of getting sick when they come in contact with contaminated water.

The Recreational Waters Pollution Report is compiled by Guam EPA's Environmental Monitoring and Analytical Services Division. Since 1974, Guam EPA has performed this community service weekly. The Environmental Monitoring and Analytical Services Division takes water samples of 42 recreational beaches every Thursday* and analyzes the samples for concentrations of the *enterococcus* bacteria indicator. Advisories are based on an instantaneous standard of not greater than 104 *enterococci*/100 ml and a geometric mean standard of not greater than 35 *enterococci*/100 ml. *Adjustments are made during official holidays.

Questions about the Recreational Waters Pollution Report should be directed to the Guam EPA Monitoring Section at 475-1656/8.

For more information, please also visit <http://epa.guam.gov/beach-report/current-beach-report/>