



Van Buren/Cass District
Health Department

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
George Friday RS/REHS, Director
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 24, 2024

Decatur Village Hall

Chris Tapper-Village Manager

Lawrence, Michigan... Van Buren County Public Health department Issues Public Health Advisory for the bathing beaches on Lake of the Woods, Decatur MI.

As a result of the bathing beach water quality sampling program done through the Van Buren County Environmental Health Division, bathing beaches are monitored weekly, if possible, for levels of bacteria. Results of samples taken on July 22, 2024 from the bathing beach area at Woolfe Park located at 45280 Pine St, revealed the surface water quality at the beach area failed to meet Michigan's Water Quality Standards for total and/or partial body contact for recreational purposes. The specific(s) violations is/are Checked below:

1. The geometric mean of samples collected during the above mentioned sampling event, 2,087.19 E. coli per 100 ml, which exceeds the partial body contract standard of 1,000 E. Coli per 100 ml.
2. The geometric mean of the samples collected during the above mentioned sampling is (X) E. coli per 100 ml, which exceeds the total body standard of 300 E. Coli per 100 ml.
3. The geometric mean of all samples collected over the last 30 days period is (X) E. coli per 100 ml. which exceeds the total body contract standard of 130 E. coli per 100 ml.

Based upon these sample results, the Van Buren County Environmental Division is advising the public to avoid body contact with the surface water at the bathing area on Lake of the Woods, Woolfe Park. This includes such activities as wading and swimming. In addition, signs have been posted at the sites to inform the public to avoid contact with the surface water at this location. The Van Buren County Environmental Health Division will collect samples on 7-29-24 and the results will be made available by 4:00 pm 7-30-24. When the water meets Michigan's Water Quality Standards the public health advisory will be lifted and the advisory removed.

If you have any questions concerning this correspondence please contact me at the Lawrence office; phone 269-621-3143, at extension 1313.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

George D. Friday RS/REHS
Director-Environmental Health

