



Village Update

SPECIAL EDITION

Brunswick Beach Water Quality Advisory



After standard testing of beach water samples at Lions Bay beaches, Brunswick Beach is now closed to swimmers and waders.

Each summer from May to September, Public Works takes samples from the three main beaches (Kelvin Grove Beach Park, Lions Bay Beach Park, and Brunswick Beach) for testing at VCH laboratories. Results are posted to our [website](#) and on the VCH website for [Beach Water Quality Reports](#). If too much E. coli is found in the water samples taken from a swimming spot, health officials close the beach to protect people's health. Under Canadian recreational water quality guidelines, beach closures are possible when officials find a single sample that exceeds 400 E. coli per 100 ml. of water, or a five-sample average exceeding 200 E. coli per 100 ml.

On Sunday, July 11th, Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) requested that the Municipality install warning signs at the beach to warn of increased E. coli bacterial levels. Public Works staff attended that day to post signage. Although the waters are closed for swimming or wading, the beach remains open for walking and sun tanning.

Neither VCH nor Public Works are aware of the cause for this contamination.

E. coli is a bacterium commonly found in fecal matter, both human and animal. E. coli is of particular concern for vulnerable populations, such as kids and seniors. If a person accidentally swallows or otherwise ingests water that has a high E. coli content, they may get sick with an illness such as diarrhea, ear infection, or sore throat.

Beach waters were re-sampled yesterday (the 12th) with results expected on Thursday, July 15th. Residents looking for further details or with questions regarding water levels and/or testing can all (604) 983-6793 or email environmental.health@vch.ca.