



Village Update

SPECIAL EDITION

July 10, 2025

UPDATES FROM THE MUNICIPALITY

THURSDAY JULY 10 IMMEDIATE: LIONS BAY BEACH PARK WATER NOT SAFE FOR SWIMMING OR WADING

With results received today, the average *E. coli* concentration of the last five water samples taken at Lions Bay Beach Park is over the allowed limit, evidencing long term contamination. Vancouver Coastal Health's Medical Health Officer has declared a Red advisory and will post a notice at https://www.vch.ca/en/service/public-beach-water-quality#beach_notifications. Municipal signage will be placed this afternoon.

The municipality tests the seawater at our three beaches for *Escherichia coliform*--*E. coli*--weekly in summer. The municipality is not speculating on the source of *E. coli* at Lions Bay Beach Park, although we can again state unequivocally there has been no upset or overflow at the ocean-outfall Kelvin Grove wastewater treatment plant, which is operating well within its capacity. *E. coli* is only produced in the colons of warm-blooded animals, and is evidence of recent fecal contamination by mammals (including humans), or birds. *E. coli* by itself is a pathogen, and some of its strains are dangerous, but because it is easy and fast to culture in the lab, it is used as the indicator for the possible presence of far more serious fecal diseases including cholera, polio, typhoid, hepatitis and enteric.

Short version: *E. coli* at Lions Bay Beach Park indicates the possible presence of serious disease-causing pathogens. The public should heed VCH water quality notices, which are deliberately posted and removed and can be relied on. Further information at https://www.vch.ca/en/service/public-beach-water-quality#compliance_monitoring_status.



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