

Tiered Monitoring Plan for Connecticut Coastal Beaches

Table I Beach Use Categories

<u>Beach Status</u>	<u>Explanation</u>
Open	Meets the minimum recommended sampling requirements and currently meets state standards for indicator bacteria concentrations.
Closed/Advisory	Beach may not be suitable for swimming or other water contact activities due to high concentration of indicator bacteria or observed contamination.
Not Monitored	Beach does not meet minimum recommended sampling requirements.

Table II Beach Classification Scheme

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Definition</u>	
Tier I	Meets the minimum recommended sampling requirements and frequency and <u>No more than one closure occurrence during previous bathing season.</u>	Weekly sampling; <= 1 closure
Tier II	Meets the minimum recommended sampling requirements and frequency and <u>No more than three closure occurrences during the previous bathing season.</u>	Weekly sampling; 2 or 3 closures
Tier III	Does not meet minimum recommended sampling requirements and frequency or <u>more than three closures</u> occurrences during the previous bathing season or <u>beaches not monitored.</u>	Not weekly sampling or >3 closures

Table III Risk Based Tiered Beach Classification Scheme Sampling Design

<u>Risk Categories</u>	Tier I	Tier II	Tier III
A. Minimum Sampling Frequency	One week before opening of beach through beach closing at end of season one sample per station per week.	Same	Non-compliant with minimum sampling frequency.
B. Designated Sample Locations	Beach length \leq 300 ft. recommends at least one sample location Beach length $>$ 300 ft. and \leq 700 ft. recommends at least 2 sample locations Beach length $>$ 700 ft. recommends 3 or more sample locations.	Same	Non-compliant with sample location guidance
C. Sample Depth	3 – 4 feet	Same	N/A
D. Sanitary Survey	Inspect beach grounds and watershed prior to bathing season	Same	N/A
E. Addition Sampling Criteria			
a. Water quality violation and re-opening after closure/advisory	Re-sample; public notification	Same	N/A
b. Sewage spill or pollution event	Re-sample; public notification	Same	N/A
c. Bather load	High bather loads/concentrations may justify additional sample collection	Same	N/A
d. Point sources such as culverts, drainage pipes, or CSOs	Recommends that additional samples be collected after rain events	Same	N/A
e. Waterfowl	Recommends additional samples if waterfowl congregate on the beach or in the designated beach area	Same	N/A
f. Sanitary Survey Information	Recommends additional samples be collected after rain events when beach may be impacted by potential non-point contamination	Same	N/A