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FLORIDA HEALTH IN INDIAN RIVER COUNTY ISSUES A SWIMMING ADVISORY



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A SWIMMING ADVISORY IS POSTED at the following beach site:

Coconut Point at Sebastian Inlet State Park

Indian River County, Fla. - Samples of beach water collected at this location did not meet the recreational water quality standard for enterococci. By state regulation, the Florida Department of Health in Indian River County is required to issue an advisory to inform the public in a specific area when this standard is not met. An advisory has been issued because water samples collected at this beach **exceeded the Federal and State recommended standard for enterococci** (greater than 70 colony forming units of enterococci per 100ml for a single sample).

The advisory issued recommends **not swimming** at this location at this time. The results of the sampling indicate that water contact may pose an increased risk of illness, particularly for susceptible individuals.

Beach Under Advisory	Enterococci Level (Limit is 70 CFUs)
Sebastian Inlet State Park (Coconut Point)	178 CFUs

The Florida Department of Health in Indian River County has been conducting marine beach water quality monitoring at 6 sites, including the beach site at this location at least biweekly since August 2002, through the Florida Healthy Beaches Program. The sampling sites are selected based on the frequency and intensity of recreational water use and the proximity to pollution sources. The water samples are being analyzed for enteric bacteria enterococci that normally inhabit the intestinal track of humans and animals, and which may cause human disease, infections, or illness. The prevalence of enteric bacteria is an indicator of fecal pollution, which may come from storm water run-off, wildlife, pets and human sewage. The purpose of the Florida Healthy Beaches program is to determine whether Florida has significant beach water quality concerns. When beach water resampling results improve the department will lift the advisory.

For more information, please visit the Florida Healthy Beaches Program Website: <http://www.flhealth.gov> and select "Beach Water Quality", from the Environmental Health Topics List.

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The department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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