Bar Harbor & Acadia National Park

Risk assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beach</th>
<th>Known or potential pollution sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sand Beach (Acadia National Park)</td>
<td>Bathers, pet waste, waterfowl/wildlife, stormwater runoff, marsh outlet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hulls Cove</td>
<td>Bathers, pet waste, waterfowl/wildlife, stormwater runoff, storm drain, river/stream outlet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hadley Point</td>
<td>Bathers, pet waste, waterfowl/wildlife, stormwater runoff, boats</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emery Cove</td>
<td>Bathers, pet waste, waterfowl/wildlife, stormwater runoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Beach</td>
<td>Bathers, pet waste, waterfowl/wildlife, stormwater runoff, storm drain, river/stream outlet</td>
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</tbody>
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Local actions to improve water quality

An education campaign promotes healthy practices on the beach and throughout the watershed.

At Sand Beach, Acadia National Park staff routinely monitor the lagoon/marsh outlet to determine the influence on surf zone water quality.

At Town Beach, the Community Environmental Health Laboratory at MDI Biological Laboratory conducts intensified monitoring around cruise ships.
**BEACH MANAGERS**

Sand Beach, Acadia National Park: Bill Gawley | 207-288-8723 | bill_gawley@nps.gov

Bar Harbor town beaches: Charlie Phippen | 207-288-5571 | bhhmaster@barharbormaine.gov
Participating beaches by town (from south to north)
Beaches participating in the Maine Healthy Beaches Program include coastal beaches (public or privately owned) with adequate public access and medium to high public usage. Eligible beaches have a management entity (municipality, park, private beach association, etc.) and a plan for monitoring, assessment and public notification of water quality conditions. New beaches will continue to be recruited over time, as resources and funding allow and/or circumstances change eligibility for program participation.

Graph: Percent of samples exceeding US EPA bacteria safety limit
Each town page has a graph that shows percent exceedance for each beach each year from 2005 to 2010. Percent exceedance is the number of samples that exceeded US EPA bacteria standards divided by the total number of samples for that year. The average annual exceedance rate for all beaches in the program is also shown in red. Note that not all beaches were monitored every year.

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The percent cleanliness rate is the number of resamples that are reported as clean divided by the total number of resamples. A water sample that exceeds the US EPA safety limit for bacteria doesn’t necessarily mean the beach is polluted. A high percent cleanliness can indicate a transient or temporary bacteria problem. A lower cleanliness rate suggests a more persistent bacteria issue. Beach managers take this resample information into account when determining whether or not to post a beach. Beach status (whether or not a beach is under an advisory) is based on the previous day’s bacteria monitoring results, AND other local characteristics that determine pollution risk, such as historical water quality, heavy rainfall or flooding, known sewage malfunctions, and/or other safety hazards. The procedure and bacteria action levels are based on US EPA guidance.

Local actions to improve water quality
Beyond routine beach monitoring, the Maine Healthy Beaches Program works with communities to develop strategies to find, fix and prevent pollution sources. This includes evaluating the potential risk of pollution from sources located offshore, along the shoreline, or upstream from the beach through special studies and sanitary surveys. This section describes any such studies to address pollution sources initiated since 2005, as well as education campaigns, infrastructure improvements, and other actions.