



Algoma
PUBLIC HEALTH
Santé publique Algoma

Safe Water – Environmental Health Beach Sampling Program

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Ontario Public Health Standards

- The board of health shall report Safe Water Program data elements in accordance with the Beach Management Protocol, 2008 (or as current); the Drinking Water Protocol, 2008 (or as current).
- The board of health shall conduct surveillance of public beaches and public beach water illnesses of public health importance, their associated risk factors, and emerging trends in accordance with the Beach Management

Indicator/Process

Escherichia coli (E.Coli) >100mL

- are bacteria that are commonly found in the intestines of humans and animals and is the key indicator used to determine water safety.

Algoma District Wawa – Elliot Lake

- 24 beaches – weekly sampling June to September
- 5 Samples collected from each location (geometric mean)

Factors that affect beach water quality

- Human Activity
- Water Temperature
- Rainfall (occurrence/intensity)
- Wave Height
- Topography
- Water Clarity
- Birds
- Animals



Does APH close the beach to the public?

- Is the beach closed? Or posted?
- During 2015, there were a total of 9 beaches posted within the Algoma District due to adverse results
- (4 SSM – 5 District)

How Does APH notify the public if adverse results are detected?

- Posting signs at beach entrances
- Posting information on the Algoma Public Health website
- Issuing media releases to local news sources including the APH facebook
- Informing the affected municipal offices or individuals responsible for maintaining the safety of the location

Questions?

