

WATER QUALITY

HEALTH ADVISORIES – FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Enterococcus bacteria are associated with the digestive systems of birds and mammals. Their presence in the environment indicates the presence of bird or mammal feces. Detection of *Enterococcus* in water sources is used as a proxy for possible human waste and health concerns. Health advisories are issued to marine waterways by the Department of Health following US EPA protocols if the level of *Enterococcus* is above 71 colonies/100ml of sample. We post the weekly reports below and provide quarterly updates.

MAY 18, 2026

HEALTH ADVISORY ISSUED FOR BAYOU TEXAR THIS WEEK

Baby Beach (Pensacola Beach) - Good

Bayou Texar – POOR – ADVISORY

Big Lagoon State Park – no report

Big Lagoon State Park East – Good

Bruce Beach – Good

Casino Beach – no report

Ft. Pickens – Good

Johnson's Beach – Good

Navy Point/Gibbs Point – no report

Opal Beach – **POOR**; 2ND TEST GOOD – NO ADVISORY ISSUED

Park East – no report

Park West Gulfside – no report

Park West Sound side – Good

Perdido Key Beach Access 3 – **POOR**; 2ND TEST GOOD – NO ADVISORY ISSUED

Perdido Key Beach Access 4 – Moderate

Perdido Key State Park East – Moderate

Quietwater Beach – no report

Sanders Beach – **POOR**; 2ND TEST GOOD – NO ADVISORY ISSUED

TOTAL FOR 2026 – 215 samples – 10 advisories – 5% of samples requiring an advisory



SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOWS – EMERALD COAST UTILITY AUTHORITY

LAST SANITARY SEWAGE OVERFLOW – MAY 10, 2026

AREA OF 1605 E. HEINBERG STREET – DOWNTOWN

CAUSE WAS BLOCKAGE IN SEWER MAIN

OVERFLOW WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 39,000 GALLONS – 17,500 RECOVERED BY VACUUM TRUCK

RED TIDE REPORTS – FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

These reports are provided by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

MAY 15, 2026

FLORIDA PANHANDLE

Red tide was detected at background levels in Escambia and Bay counties this week.

Elsewhere in FL red tide was not detected.

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Designation	Cells / liter of sample
Background	1,000 or less
Very low	1,000 - 10,000
Low	10,000 – 100,000
Medium	100,000 – 1,000,000
High	1,000,000 or more

ANNUAL RAINFALL DATA - NOAA

Pensacola Bay Area

2012 – 66.63”

2013 – 74.61”

2014 – 83.17”

2015 – 75.69”

2016 – 64.62”

2017 – 91.91”

2018 – 90.01”

2019 – 52.56”

2020 – 76.49”

2021 – 88.43”

2022 – 69.03”

2023 – 58.51”

2024 – 64.60”

2025 – 60.68”

2026 – 13.15”

MEAN (2012-2025) – 72.64”

VIBRIO VULNIFICUS CASES

Vibrio vulnificus is one of several *Vibrio* bacteria found in our coastal waters. The bacteria are naturally occurring here and are more abundant in warm water. Infections are usually associated with entering the water with open wounds or consuming uncooked seafood. Individuals with comprised immune systems (for a variety of reasons) are at highest risk. Below are *Vibrio* cases for our area.

THIS WEEK -

NO REPORTS OF VIBRO IN FLORIDA FOR 2026 AT THIS TIME.

BELOW ARE THE TOTALS FOR 2025.

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	2023	2024	2025
Escambia			
Cases	4	4	3
Deaths	0	0	0
Santa Rosa			
Cases	0	2	3
Deaths	0	0	0
Florida			
Cases	46	82	33
Deaths	11	19	5

ESCAMBIA COUNTY LANDS AND WATER QUALITY DIVISION WATER QUALITY PORTAL

This portal will provide updated water quality information from Escambia County. You can access this portal at <https://myescambia.com/our-services/natural-resources-management/water-quality-land-management/surface-water-quality-monitoring/water-quality-data>

PENSACOLA-PERDIDO BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM’S STATE OF THE BAY REPORT CARD

This is an excellent website reporting on a variety of environmental parameters across the bay system.

<https://www.stateofthebays.org/>.