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**Health Department of Northwest Michigan**

**Richardi Park Beach Advisory in Place Over the Weekend**

*Partial-body contact recommended*

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan (HDNW) is continuing a partial body contact advisory for Richardi Park Beach in Antrim County, Michigan through the weekend. A water sample collected Thursday showed an E. coli level of 624.8 E. coli per 100ml, which calls for restricted use based on Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) water quality standards. The advisory is posted at the beach.

At this level, HDNW recommends limiting water contact to wading, fishing, and paddling. Contact above the waist is not advised.

A follow-up water sample will be taken on Monday, Aug. 29 at the E. Antrim Street site in Bellaire. Results will be shared with the public Tuesday, Aug. 30. Richardi Park is not a beach commonly used by the public for swimming and tends to be a gathering place for geese, which contributes to potentially elevated E. coli levels through fecal matter. High E. coli levels can clear up within 24-48 hours, especially on Lake Michigan if the weather is favorable.

HDNW posts beach monitoring reports on its website at <https://www.nwhealth.org/beach.html>. Through an EGLE supported web-based program, the public has real-time access to beach water quality results for beaches all over Michigan. Information can be found at [www.deq.state.mi.us/beach/](http://www.deq.state.mi.us/beach/).

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*The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is mandated by the Michigan Public Health Code to promote wellness, prevent disease, provide quality healthcare, address health problems of vulnerable populations, and protect the environment for the residents and visitors of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Otsego counties. For more information, visit [nwhealth.org](http://nwhealth.org).*