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July 21, 2023
For Immediate Release

Two Otsego County Beach Advisories Lifted
Enjoy safe swimming at these parks

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan (HDNW) is lifting beach advisories for Otsego Lake State Park and Otsego County Park, both in Otsego County. Water samples taken Thursday showed E. coli levels low enough to remove both advisories based on Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) water quality standards. The beach postings have been removed.

Specifically, for Otsego Lake State Park, Thursday's re-sampling shows an E. coli level of 7.0 per 100 milliliters (ml) – a level safe for all recreational uses.

For Otsego County Park, Thursday's re-sampling came back with an E. coli level of 172.9 per 100 ml – also a level safe for all recreational uses.

Levels between 301 and 1,000 per 100 ml qualify for partial body contact advisories, based on EGLE standards. Levels greater than 1,000 per 100 ml qualify for no body contact with the water. This level is considered a health alert.

Water sampling is done throughout the summer months to monitor E. coli levels at many public beaches. The levels change frequently, impacted by the presence of fowl, waves, and more. When a sample comes back that creates an advisory of any type, the water at that beach is sampled again the next day to keep the public updated.

To review this week's full beach monitoring report, click here: <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/.

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HDNW 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.



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