

For Immediate Release

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Advisory: Washtenaw County Beach Closure
Sugarloaf Lake Beach closed due to high levels of bacteria

YPSILANTI, Mich., July 16, 2020 – Washtenaw County Health Department is closing Sugarloaf Lake due to high levels of *E. coli* bacteria. Sugarloaf Lake Beach is in the Waterloo State Recreation Area in Lyndon Township, 5000 Loveland Road, Chelsea. The high levels were detected through [routine testing](#) done at public bathing beaches during the summer months. The closure is effective immediately and will remain in effect until follow-up tests show the bacteria levels are at levels considered safe for swimming.

E. coli bacteria can cause gastrointestinal illness and are a particular concern for people with weakened immune systems.

The public beach at Sugarloaf Lake is closed to swimming. Other forms of recreation that do not involve body contact with the water, like fishing, are permitted. The beach will remain closed until additional testing demonstrates bacteria levels have been reduced. The Michigan Public Health Code allows for public beach closures if *E. coli* bacteria levels exceed set thresholds.

Individuals with questions or concerns regarding public beach water sampling, or those who believe they may have become ill after swimming in the impacted waters, are encouraged to call the Washtenaw County Environmental Health Division at 734-222-3800 during normal business hours, or visit www.washtenaw.org/envhealth.

For the most updated information on public beaches, as well as a listing of water sample results, please visit the Michigan BeachGuard website at www.eagle.state.mi.us/beach.

Washtenaw County Health Department

The Washtenaw County Health Department promotes health and works to prevent disease and injury in our community. Our mission is to assure, in partnership with the community, the conditions necessary for people to live healthy lives through prevention and protection programs.

The Washtenaw County Health Department has achieved national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board and maintains state accreditation through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Visit us at washtenaw.org/health or call 734-544-6700.

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