



## Washtenaw County Health Department

### For Immediate Release

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### **Advisory: Washtenaw County Beach Closure** *Sugarloaf Lake Beach closed for swimming due to high levels of bacteria*

YPSILANTI, Mich., July 6, 2023 – The Washtenaw County Health Department is closing Sugarloaf Lake Beach in Waterloo Recreation Area due to high levels of *E. coli* bacteria. Sugarloaf Lake Beach is in Lyndon Township at 500 Loveland Rd, 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 levels are considered safe for swimming.

Although the public beach at Sugarloaf Lake Beach is closed to swimming, other forms of recreation that do not involve body contact with the water, like fishing, are permitted. For updates, visit the Health Department's [website](#).

The Michigan Public Health Code allows for public beach closures if *E. coli* bacteria levels exceed set thresholds. *E. coli* bacteria can cause gastrointestinal illness and are a particular concern for people with weakened immune systems. Elevated levels of *E. coli* bacteria may have been caused by increased use of the beach during the holiday.

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](http://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.egle.state.mi.us/beach](http://www.egle.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.

Local public health information and updates are always available at [www.washtenaw.org/health](http://www.washtenaw.org/health). The Health Department also provides frequent social media updates (@wcpubhealth) and sends regular email updates, sign up at <http://bit.ly/WCHD555>.

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