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Beaches

Passe says that timing of water is testing is very important in reflecting how much e coli impairment there is. E coli is a byproduct of feces, and is washed off of land into the watershed during rain events. A hard, relatively short rain will result in higher amounts of e coli concentration. So, if a sample is taken shortly after a rain, e coli will be more likely to be at higher levels.

Each state's most e coli prevalent beaches are listed, and for Minnesota's shore of Lake Superior, those included:

- Agate Bay, Two Harbors (4 unsafe days, 17 samples)
- Twin Points Public Access, between Two Harbors and Silver Bay (4, 16)
- Mouth of the Lester River, Duluth (2, 13)
- New Duluth Boat Club landing (14, 37)
- 5 miles SE of Duluth Aerial Lift Bridge (4, 29)

Despite data to the contrary, Passe was surprised not to find Two Harbor's Burlington Bay also on the list.

"Yes, there are impairments on Burlington Bay and Agate Bay for e coli, both of those beaches were basically closed for the entire summer in 2017," said Passe.

Passe says that the SWCD is working with the Minnesota Department of Health to develop a relative risk warning system that would be more responsive to the changing conditions. Meanwhile, he says that people should not avoid using the beaches throughout most of the summer days.

"It's not like the entire lake is always that way, and there are things people can do to avoid e coli at beaches: don't swim after a big rain, rains are huge drivers of e coli in the lake," said Passe.

According to the Center for Disease Control many strains of e coli (escherichia coli) are harm-

less, however, some can cause diarrhea, urinary tract infections, respiratory problems and other illnesses.

The standard approach to stormwater runoff management is to put it in a holding pond and let it out at a slower rate. Once in the lake e coli disperses and, in theory, should be trapped in sediment at the bottom, where in cold conditions it replicates slowly.

However, this is a method that Passe questions as the most effective for Lake Superior.

"In my opinion that doesn't work too well here, the sediment is so fine it doesn't settle out, and with warmer temperatures more bacteria can grow, and in Agate Bay the boat thrusters stir up 'legacy e coli,'" said Passe, a phrase he uses to describe e coli from years past that has settled into the sediment.

He says best management practices that might be adopted would be to filter stormwater through rain gardens or sand filters, leaving e coli bacteria in a dry zone.

"You can kill the bacteria in a dry zone, but as long as it stays wet, it stays alive," said Passe.

Last year samples taken 100 feet offshore at Burlington Bay, Agate Bay, and the city's water intake were all found to be completely clear of e coli.

Lake County's SWCD is currently undertaking a study to look at water samples of Lake Superior for e coli in order to find where it is coming from. A Lake Superior Coastal Program grant-based sampling project will be completed by the Fall, and Passe says it should help identify the source of the e coli that is at the local beaches.

"If we can figure out where it is coming from, whether it's human, goose or dogs, it will be easier to manage knowing the source," said Passe.

Sheriff's Report

Monday, August 5, 2019

- Inmate Population: 3
- 0111 Deputy checks businesses in Finland area.
 - 0134 Deputy out with vehicle at AEOA. Party sleeping and waiting for AEOA to open.
 - 0527 Deputy makes traffic stop on 7th Ave. Warn for driving conduct on Hwy 61.
 - 0705 Deputy responds to alarm at TH area residence. All clear.
 - 0825 Deputy speaks with TH resident regarding civil rental issue.
 - 0919 Deputy speaks with TH area resident regarding civil issue with neighbor.
 - 1112 Deputy assists broken down motorist at Birch Lake Campground with contacting family member.
 - 1852 Deputies, SBPD at meeting in SB.
 - 2018 Deputy makes traffic stop on Hwy 2 near Jordan Rd. Warn for speed.
 - 2342 Deputy takes report of indecent exposure incident at S. Kawishiwi Campground.

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

- Inmate Population: 5
- 0503 Deputy transports inmate from SLC Jail to LC Jail.
 - 0815 Deputy makes traffic stop on Hwy 2 at THHS. Warn for speed.
 - 1244 Deputy takes report of hotrodder in Beaver Bay.
 - 1253 Deputy makes traffic stop on Hwy 1 near New Tomahawk Rd. Advised driver of camper door swinging open.
 - 1351 Deputy at Don's Auto for squad maintenance.
 - 1446 Deputy, rescue, Ely ambulance respond to medical on Ima Lake. Party transported to Ely Hospital by Ely Ambulance.
 - 1606 Deputies check

- welfare of family at rural Silver Bay area residence. All okay.
- 1619 Deputy speaks with Ely area resident regarding driving issues of family member.
 - 2314 Deputy assists Ely PD with report of assault.
 - 2345 Deputy out with vehicle at Knife River rest stop. Party okay to sleep there for the night.

Wednesday, August 7, 2019

- Inmate Population: 6
- 0730 Deputy, rescue, ambulance respond to request for lift assist at Isabella residence.
 - 0919 Deputy speaks with TH resident regarding civil issue.
 - 0959 Deputy makes traffic stop on Hwy 1 at Falls Ridge Rd. Warn for speed.
 - 1129 Deputy makes traffic stop on Hwy 2 near Jordan Rd. Warn for speed.
 - 1551 Deputies, SBPD, rescue, ambulance respond to medical at Palisade Head. One transported to Essentia.
 - 1631 Deputy, Ely ambulance and fire respond to vehicle accident on Hwy 1 near New Tomahawk Rd. One transported to Ely Hospital.
 - 1743 Deputies, rescue, ambulance respond to report of kayak overturned in Lake Superior at Tettegouche SP. Party rescued and okay.
 - 2226 Deputies, rescue, Ely ambulance respond to medical at Basswood Lake in BWCA. Lifelink transports one from Moose Lake Landing.
 - 2228 Deputies respond to domestic at Silver Rapids Lodge. Parties separated.

Thursday, August 8, 2019

- Inmate Population: 4
- Deputy assists Ely PD with report of horse loose on Hwy 169.
 - 0946 Deputy drops citation off at Ely area residence.
 - 1155 Deputy assists THPD with photo lineup.
 - 1213 Deputy, rescue, ambulance respond to request for lift assist at Isabella residence.
 - 1337 Deputy out with unoccupied vehicle parked on Reeves Rd. Party may be on the hiking trail.
 - 1454 Deputy speaks with KR residents regarding neighbor issues.
 - 1900 Deputy serves papers at TH residence.
 - 1911 Deputy, rescue, ambulance respond to medical at Isabella residence. One transported to LVMH.
 - 1920 Deputy serves papers at TH residence.
 - 2049 Deputy serves papers at TH residence.
 - 2153 Deputy responds to report of shots heard near rural TH area residence. Neighbors lighting off fireworks.
 - 2320 Deputy, rescue,

ambulance, THFD respond to report of rollover accident on Stanley Rd at Hwy 61. No occupants in vehicle.

Friday, August 9, 2019

- Inmate Population: 6
- 0930 Deputy speaks with driver involved in accident last evening.
 - 1204 Deputy serves papers at SB residence.
 - 1401 Deputy meeting with County Attorney to discuss case.
 - 1422 Deputy takes call regarding possible order violation.
 - 1451 Deputy speaks with rural TH resident regarding obtaining an order for protection.
 - 1658 Deputy, SBPD respond to report of vehicle in ditch on Lax Lake Rd near Tettegouche SP. NO reported injuries.
 - 2052 Deputy, THPD respond to disturbance at Super Shores lakehomes. Parties separated.
 - 2117 Deputy assists Babbitt PD with physical domestic.

Saturday, August 10, 2019

- Inmate Population: 7
- 0823 Deputy posts papers at TH residence.
 - 0918 Deputy serves papers at rural SB residence.
 - 1009 Deputy makes traffic stop at BB Mobil. Warn for speed.
 - 2220 Deputies, THPD respond to disturbance at Super Shores lakehomes. Parties separated.

Sunday, August 11, 2019

- Inmate Population: 8
- 0125 Deputy assists Ely PD with fight at Kway Wabbitt bar.
 - 0622 Deputy responds to report of horse loose on Hwy 3. Horse is inside the fence.
 - 0915 Deputy responds to report of theft from rural SB area property.
 - 1000 Deputy makes traffic stop on Hwy 1 near Mountain View Rd. Warn for speed.
 - 1013 Deputy, THFD respond to report of natural gas odor near Gooseberry Falls SP. Location of odor not located.
 - 1113 Deputy serves papers at rural SB residence.
 - 1128 Deputy, THPD, THFD respond to report of plane leaking fuel at TH Airport.
 - 1416 Deputy responds to two-vehicle accident on the 500 block of 7th Ave. No reported injuries.
 - 1954 Deputy makes traffic stop on Moose Lake Rd at Fernberg Rd. Warn for speed.
 - 2044 Deputy assists ambulance & rescue with medical at KR residence.
 - 2245 Deputy makes traffic stop on Hwy 61 at BB Mobil. One brought to LCJ for DUI.

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