

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 16, 2017

Contact: Megan Carmichael

(727) 861-5250 ext. 0162

PASCO COUNTY SALTWATER BEACH MONITORING RESULTS

New Port Richey - The Florida Department of Health in Pasco County conducts saltwater beach testing through the Healthy Beaches Monitoring Program. The water samples are being analyzed for enterococci enteric bacteria that normally inhabit the intestinal tract of humans and animals, and which may cause human disease, infections, or rashes. The presence of enteric bacteria is an indication of fecal pollution, which may come from storm water runoff, pets and wildlife, and human sewage. The purpose of the Healthy Beaches Monitoring Program is to determine whether Florida has significant coastal beach water quality problems. Water quality categorizations are based upon the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA's) recommended standard for enterococci of no more than 104 colony forming units per 100 milliliters of marine water.

Sampling Date:

08/14/2017

Based on the marine water bacterial indicator that has been recommended by the EPA an advisory remains in effect for Robert J. Strickland Beach, with an added advisory for Robert K. Rees Park Beach. Brasher Park Beach, Gulf Harbors Beach, and Anclote River Park Beach have no advisories at this time. Next expected sampling date is 08/28/2017.

If you have any questions, please contact the Florida Department of Health in Pasco County's, Environmental Health Services division at (727) 841-4425, option 5, or visit the Department of Health's Internet Beach Water Quality website (www.floridahealth.gov), and click on the "Environmental Health" Section and click 'Beach Water Quality.'

###

Angela Babson

Public Information Officer

angela.babson@flhealth.gov

727-619-0163