



100 Polk County Plaza • Suite 180 • Balsam Lake, WI 54810 • 715-485-8500 • FAX 715-485-8501

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Brian Hobbs, RS, Environmental Health Specialist
Polk County Health Department
715/485-8532

County Testing Lifts Beach Advisory

The Polk County Health Department has lifted the advisory on Big Butternut Lake Beach in Luck. Two consecutive samples have indicated bacteria levels are at safe swimming levels. Weekly monitoring will continue through Labor Day to ensure that the bacteria remain at a safe level for swimmers.

The Health Department recommends swimmers take caution when swimming at any beach, especially after heavy rains. Bacteria counts usually rise after a rainstorm at all beaches. The most frequent sources of disease-causing microorganisms are waterfowl fecal contamination and storm water runoff, sewage treatment plant malfunctions, boating wastes and malfunctioning septic systems.

If you are concerned about “swimmer’s itch”, a type of skin irritation causing a rash and itching, swimmers should rub off with a rough towel *before* the water dries on the skin surface. An immediate fresh shower after leaving the water is also effective.

For more information about swimming beach monitoring and safety, you can call the Polk County Health Department at 485-8532 visit the Polk County Health Department at www.polkcountyhealthdept.org