



Erie County Health Department
An Accredited Public Health Department
Erie County Community Health Center
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Peter T. Schade, MPH, REHS
Health Commissioner



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Erie County Health Department Launches Summer Beach Water Sampling Program to Ensure Public Safety

Sandusky, OH – [June 1, 2026] – As summer arrives and residents and visitors flock to the North Coast, the Erie County Health Department (ECHD) is officially launching its annual summer beach monitoring program to ensure local waters are safe for swimming. Throughout the season, dedicated summer beach interns will be deployed across the county to collect and analyze water samples at popular local bathing beaches.

These interns work directly within ECHD's advanced Regional Response Water Lab (RRWL). The daily testing protocols look for E.coli levels that could pose health risks to swimmers, allowing the health department to issue timely advisories if water quality falls below safe standards.

The program provides an invaluable service to the community while offering the interns crucial, hands-on field experience.

"The data from the samples collected by our interns all us to monitor the beaches consistently throughout the summer" said Anne Wells, REHS, RRWL Supervisor at the ECHD. "It's a very reliable testing process, and the real-world outcome is simple: empower local families and vacationers to make safe decisions when they step into the water."

"Clean, safe recreational water is central to our quality of life and our local tourism economy here in Erie County," stated Peter T. Schade, Erie County Health Commissioner. "We want everyone to enjoy our beaches with complete peace of mind this summer."

Beach monitoring updates and active water advisories will be updated regularly throughout the summer season.

For more information about beach testing schedules, sample analysis, or the technical capabilities of the Regional Response Water Lab, please visit the official RRWL portal at eriecohealthohio.com/regional-response-water-laboratory/.

About Erie County Health Department:

The Erie County Health Department remains dedicated to improving the health and wellness of all residents through accessible, compassionate, and comprehensive healthcare services. ECHD operates the Erie County Community Health Center, the Erie County Detox, Kaptur Rogowski House, and Compass Point, providing adult day services for Alzheimer's and Dementia patients.

For more information about Health Department or Health Center services, visit www.ErieCoHealthOhio.com.

Media Contact:

Pete Schade, Health Commissioner
Erie County Health Department
(567)867-5112 | pschade@echdohio.org | www.ErieCoHealthOhio.com