



# GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY HEALTH  
2600 LaFranier Road  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
231-995-6111

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
2650 LaFranier Road  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
2600 LaFranier Road  
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[www.gtchd.org](http://www.gtchd.org)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 21, 2014

### Weekly Grand Traverse Bay Beach Report (Wednesday Sampling)

Sampled August 20, 2014, Reported August 21, 2014

<u>Beach</u>	<u>This weeks sample results E. coli count per 100ml</u>	<u>30 day Geometric Mean</u>	<u>Water Quality Index</u>
West End	59	17	Level 1
Clinch Park	See attached Health Alert regarding Biosolid Release into Boardman Lake from Regional Sewage Treatment Plant on August 20, 2014	28	Level 4
Bryant Park	See attached Health Alert regarding Biosolid Release into Boardman Lake from Regional Sewage Treatment Plant on August 20, 2014	54	Level 4
East Bay Park	31	49	Level 1
Traverse City State Park	6	28	Level 1
Acme Bayside Park	497	66	Level 2
Sayler Park	6	12	Level 1

<u>Water Quality Index</u>		<u>E.coli/100ml (Single Event)</u>	<u>E.coli/100 ml (30 day geo-mean)</u>
Level 1	E. coli levels meet MDEQ swimming standards for full body contact.	0-300	0-130
Level 2	E. coli levels meet MDEQ standards for wading, fishing, and boating. Contact above the waist not advised.	300-1000	130-1000*
Level 3	E. coli levels exceed MDEQ standards, no body contact advised.	>1000	>1000
Level 4	Health Alert. E. coli levels and/or known gross contamination of beach waters. Avoid contact with beach waters.		

Note: Beach samples are routinely collected once a week. Therefore E. coli levels may not meet MDEQ standards between sampling days. E. coli levels are more apt to increase after a storm.

- \* If beach samples contain more than 130 E.coli/100ml, as a 30-day geometric mean, a notice for that beach will be set at the water quality index of 2 and will remain until the 30-day geometric mean is below 130 E.coli per 100ml.



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 20, 2014

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**OMI Project Manager**  
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## PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

On late Wednesday, August 20, 2014 there was a release of approximately 200 gallons of biosolids\* (treated digester sludge) from the Traverse City Regional Sewage Treatment Facility into the North end of Boardman Lake. As a precautionary measure, the Grand Traverse County Health Department is advising the public against any body contact of the waters in the following areas:

- North end of Boardman Lake
- Lower Boardman River from Sewage Treatment Facility to the mouth of Grand Traverse Bay
- Beach areas from Clinch Park to Bryant Park Beach

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has been contacted and will be working with public health officials and officials from the regional sewage treatment facility to ensure that the necessary corrections are made. Testing of the affected waters will begin on Thursday and will continue until these waters return to normal.

The public is further advised that the drinking water supply for the City of Traverse City is not affected, since the Cities drinking water comes from East Grand Traverse Bay.

More information and updates will be forth coming.

\*Biosolids are waste by products from the sewage treatment process which are considered safe for application to non-food agricultural fields.

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