

Concerned Citizens of Montauk (CCOM) partners with the Surfrider Foundation Eastern Long Island Chapter and Peconic Baykeeper to monitor East End water bodies for the bacteria Enterococcus. CCOM tests locations in Montauk, Amagansett, and East Hampton, processes the water samples in the CCOM office lab, and shares the results with the public through [press releases](#), social media, and the Surfrider Foundation's Blue Water Task Force (BWTF) [website](#). Recreational waters are considered unsafe if Enterococcus levels exceed 104 CFU per 100 milliliters of water (High Bacteria). High levels are often due to heavy rains and extreme high tides. Levels <10 are considered below the detection limit of the test. *Intensive monitoring and/or remediation projects are planned or in place at the locations marked with an asterisk (*). As of summer 2026, we have begun testing at EHSEED gardens.*

LOCATION	ENTERO LEVEL (CFU/100mL)	INDICATION OF
MONTAUK		
Lake Montauk: Harbor*	<10	Low Bacteria
Lake Montauk: Causeway South*	<10	Low Bacteria
Lake Montauk: East Lake Drive	<10	Low Bacteria
Lake Montauk: Nature Preserve Beach*	<10	Low Bacteria
Lake Montauk: East Creek*	285	High Bacteria
Lake Montauk: South Beach*	<10	Low Bacteria
Lake Montauk: West Creek	63	Medium Bacteria
Lake Montauk: Stepping Stones*	<10	Low Bacteria
Ditch Plains: East of Jetty	216	High Bacteria
Ditch Plains: Swim Area	31	Low Bacteria
Surfside Place: Beach	<10	Low Bacteria
Surfside Place: Outfall Pipe*	/	Unable to Test
Fort Pond: Industrial* (North)	63	Medium Bacteria
Fort Pond: Ramp* (South)	10	Low Bacteria
Fort Pond: East	20	Low Bacteria
Fort Pond: West	128	High Bacteria
LI Sound: Fort Pond Bay at Navy Rd.	<10	Low Bacteria
LI Sound: Soundview Drive Beach	10	Low Bacteria
LI Sound: Sunset Beach	<10	Low Bacteria
AMAGANSETT		
Napeague Harbor: East	<10	Low Bacteria
Napeague Harbor: West	41	Medium Bacteria
Fresh Pond: Beach*	30	Low Bacteria
Fresh Pond: Creek*	<10	Low Bacteria
EAST HAMPTON		
Accabonac Harbor: Louse Point Beach	<10	Low Bacteria
Accabonac Harbor: Landing Lane	10	Low Bacteria
Accabonac Harbor: North	75	Medium Bacteria
Three Mile Harbor: Maidstone Park South	109	High Bacteria
Three Mile Harbor: Head of the Harbor*	63	Medium Bacteria
Three Mile Harbor: Settler's Landing	<10	Low Bacteria
Northwest Creek: Ramp	<10	Low Bacteria

Enterococcus (CFU/100mL) - Based on water quality standards set by New York State Department of Health:
Low Bacteria (0 - 35); **Medium Bacteria (36 - 104); High Bacteria (> 104)**

HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS

Concerned Citizens of Montauk (CCOM), in partnership with the Gobler Laboratory at the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS) at Stony Brook, monitors Fort Pond for toxic blue-green algae, also known as cyanobacteria. CCOM delivers samples to the Gobler Lab, which shares bloom occurrences online through the [NYS DEC HAB Notification page](#). Blue-green levels at **25µg/L** and above are an indication of a bloom and trigger toxicity testing.

DATE	LOCATION	BLOOM STATUS	BLUE-GREEN LEVEL (µg/L)	INDICATION OF
9/30/2025	Big Reed Pond Site 1A	Bloom Present	28,777.81	High Risk
9/30/2025	Big Reed Pond Site 1B	Bloom Present	10,209.88	High Risk
9/30/2025	Big Reed Pond Site 2	Bloom Present	77,340.63	High Risk
10/7/2025	Fort Pond: Industrial	Not Present	0.24	Low Risk
10/7/2025	Fort Pond: Ramp	Not Present	7.69	Low Risk
10/20/2025	Fort Pond: Industrial	Not Present	7.60	Low Risk
10/20/2025	Fort Pond: Ramp	Not Present	9.07	Low Risk
11/12/2025	Fort Pond: Industrial	Not Present	6.24	Low Risk
11/12/2025	Fort Pond: Ramp	Not Present	7.05	Low Risk
1/21/2026	Fort Pond: Industrial	Not Present	0.02	Low Risk
1/21/2026	Fort Pond: Ramp	Not Present	0.01	Low Risk
4/23/2026	Fort Pond: Industrial	Not Present	0.00	Low Risk
4/23/2026	Fort Pond: Ramp	Not Present	0.00	Low Risk
5/26/2026	Fort Pond: Industrial	Not Present	0.1	Low Risk
5/26/2026	Fort Pond: Ramp	Not Present	1.87	Low Risk
6/1/2026	Fort Pond: Industrial	Not Present	1.61	Low Risk
6/1/2026	Fort Pond: Ramp	Not Present	5.73	Low Risk
6/8/2026	Fort Pond: Industrial	Not Present	3.23	Low Risk
6/8/2026	Fort Pond: Ramp	Not Present	7.17	Low Risk
6/22/2026	Fort Pond: Industrial	Not Present	11.75	Medium Risk
6/22/2026	Fort Pond: Ramp	Not Present	12.6	Medium Risk
6/29/2026	Fort Pond: Industrial	Not Present	7.24	Low Risk
6/29/2026	Fort Pond: Ramp	Not Present	15.45	Medium Risk
7/7/2026	Fort Pond: Industrial	Not Present	13.23	Medium Risk
7/7/2026	Fort Pond: Ramp	Not Present	12.77	Medium Risk
7/13/2026	Fort Pond: Industrial	Not Present	9.59	Low Risk
7/13/2026	Fort Pond: Ramp	Not Present	10.15	Medium Risk

**Big Reed Pond is not tested regularly. Numbers in the tens of thousands are extremely high for a cyanobacteria bloom. Thank you to our partners at THNC and the Gobler Lab who were instrumental in the Big Reed Pond testing.

HABs results could be delayed for up to 14 days from sampling date.

To see all HABs data and to learn more about CCOM's water quality programs, please visit the website at <https://www.preservemontauk.org/initiatives/water-quality/>