

		West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources			
		MANUAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROCEDURES			
Section	Recreation	Date	February 1, 2006	Procedure #	R-11
Subject	Monitoring of pH in Bathing Beach Water			Page	1 of 1

There have been questions raised concerning the monitoring of pH in bathing beach waters as it pertains to Section 7.4.c. of the [Recreational Water Facilities Rule, 64 CSR 16](#).

Section 7.4.c. states: "When the pH of the water of a bathing beach is less than six point five (6.5) or greater than eight point five (8.5), the operator shall close the beach to bathers."

Public Health Sanitation has determined that pH in bathing beach water has not been shown to be a public health concern. All research indicates no other regulatory agency is monitoring pH in natural waters for bather safety.

Therefore, effective February 1, 2006, bathing beaches regulated by the Recreational Water Facilities Rule, will no longer be required to close the beach to patrons if the pH is below 6.5 or greater than 8.5.

Bathing beaches will not be required to perform daily testing of pH, have an approved test kit available, or submit form [ER-32, Recreational Water Facility Weekly Operational Report](#). Water sampling requirements for bathing beaches shall remain the same.

References

[64 CSR 16, Recreational Water Facilities Rule](#)
[ER-32, Recreational Water Facility Weekly Operational Report](#)

History

Attachments