

Water Sampling Summary from TPOA around Sturgeon Bay, Tay Township, 2019

It was a different type of year with cooler temperatures, higher water levels and bigger waves than we had been experiencing in past years. As well, many conditions revealed the chances of water quality quickly changing due to simple things. And yes as you will see in the SMDHU sampling, quality does change from almost foot to foot in depth or side to side.

By our results, we found quality was effected by more than just birds, run off and crowds. This report shows all our results at the TPOA locations that we sampled this year and also, the report from SMDHU who also tested Waubashene Beach (as well as us) this year.

Location	June 24	July 10	July 23	August 6	August 19	Sept 3
Waubashene Beach	20	10	30	10	80	20
Old Cottage Lane	20	10	20	<10	200	<10
Forest Lane	<10	10	<10	20	50	10
Albin Road	70	10	<10	30	80	10
Lawson Lane	30	10	30	20	160	<10
Acorn Lane	100	20	40	70	290	20
Robins Point Road	20	10	20	20	50	10

The numbers represent the e-coli in a sample. Our criteria is less than a 100 count is needed to recommend as safe for swimming although, the closer to 100, the more care should be taken.

Notice August 19th ... this day was quite windy & stirring up the water which meant 3 of our locations would not be safe for swimming. Why was Albin Road site so high June 24th yet usually so good the rest of summer you ask, the wooden stairs down and into the water was covered in algae which we scraped off into the water as the steps were very slippery.

Once a year, we do a check on the Albin Road Spring that is used for drinking by some of our members. Two tests are done by the Lab and to be completely safe, must show 0 e-coli and also 0 Background or total coliform. 2019 sample June 24th showed 0 Coliform but 10 Background.

We sample each site once roughly every 2 weeks during the summer and these figures represent the number of e-coli per 200 ml sample of water.

It took Talpines a few years to finally have Tay arrange to have Waubashene Beach tested by the SMDHU the same as the other Public Beaches were being done in Tay. This is the second year they have sampled our Beach and their results for Waubashene Beach as taken in 2019, follows.

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Their system varies from ours in a number of ways. They try to sample every week through the summer period and each location is sampled 5 times, the results per week are then processed individually, the readings of the 5 samples are added together then divided by 5 giving an average for that site. The end result then is to be a reading of less than 200 e-coli per 100 ml of water. Anything above that amount requires the area to be posted as “swimming Advisory”.

WAUBAUSHENE BEACH 2019

Date	Individual Samples results					G-Mean	Status
June 28	150	200	250	300	130	196.44	Open
July 5	10	10	10	10	10	10	Open
July 11	10	10	10	10	20	11.49	Open
July 19	10	10	10	10	10	10	Open
July 25	10	10	10	10	10	10	Open
Aug 1	10	10	10	10	10	10	Open
Aug 8	420	40	30	50	10	47.89	Open
Aug 16	10	30	10	30	10	15.52	Open
Aug 22	180	130	280	40	40	100.95	Open
Aug 29	110	70	20	10	10	22.38	Open

Of interest is the facts that their system has several numbers higher than ours from the Waubauskene Beach AND that ours was the only Public Beach not posted last year at least once with a “Swimming Advisory” in Tay.

Report and Summary By
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