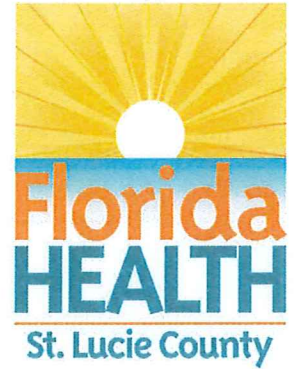


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**November 20, 2020**



**\*\*\*HEALTH ADVISORY FOR BACTERIA LEVELS\*\*\***  
**\*\*\* *North Fork of the St. Lucie River* \*\*\***

**Contact:** Arlease Hall, Public Information Officer  
[Arlease.Hall@flhealth.gov](mailto:Arlease.Hall@flhealth.gov) 772-370-1391

**St. Lucie County** – Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie County will maintain the swimming advisories for the following river locations:

- River Park Marina-North Fork of the St. Lucie River
- Veterans Park-North Fork of the St. Lucie River

Sample results found higher than normal levels of enteric bacteria. Potential health risks for those who ingest or come in contact with the water include upset stomach, diarrhea, eye irritation and skin rashes. Swimming in the waters is not recommended due to an increased risk of illness at this time.

Enteric bacteria inhabit the intestinal tract of humans and animals and their presence in recreational waters is an indication of fecal pollution. The bacteria may come from storm water runoff, pets, wildlife and human sewage.

Samples were collected Monday November 16, 2020. Sampling is scheduled for Monday November 30, 2020 and the results will be available Thursday December 3, 2020. The Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie County issued the advisories October 29, 2020 and will continue the advisory until results are satisfactory.

For results of St. Lucie County river samples, visit the Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie County website at <http://stlucie.floridahealth.gov/> click on Environmental Health, then select North Fork Bacteria Testing, then select North Fork-St. Lucie River Sample Results.

For more information, please contact environmental health division at 772-873-4931.

**About the Florida Department of Health**

The department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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