

4.5.7 Bacterial Water Quality Criteria

4.5.7.1 Primary and Secondary Contact Recreation Waters:

The following criteria shall apply:

Waterbody Type	Single-Sample Value (Enterococcus Colonies/100ml)	Geometric Mean (Enterococcus Colonies/100ml)
Primary Contact Recreation Fresh Waters	185	100
Primary Contact Recreation Marine Waters	104	35
Secondary Contact Recreation Fresh Waters	925	500
Secondary Contact Recreation Marine Waters	520	175
<u>Atlantic Ocean Waters from Cape Henlopen to the Delaware/Maryland State Line</u>	<u>The statistical threshold value of weekly samples collected over a 30 day period shall not exceed 130 in more than 10 percent of the samples collected.</u>	<u>The Geometric Mean of weekly samples collected over a 30 day period shall not exceed 35.</u>

The purpose of these criteria is to provide the Department with a basis to assess water quality trends and pollution control needs with regard to primary and secondary contact recreation in waters of the State and to meet Federal Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act Requirements. The criteria apply to enterococcus bacteria determined by the Department to be of non-wildlife origin based on best scientific judgment using available

information. Swimming in waters affected by runoff during runoff periods may present an elevated risk of gastrointestinal illness and is not recommended.