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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Health Officials Kick-off Beach Season in Milwaukee**

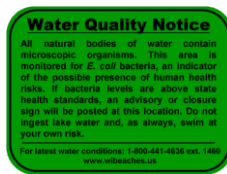
*City of Milwaukee Health Department beach water quality testing begins, results to be posted daily*

MILWAUKEE – The City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) is once again kicking off summer by updating beachgoers to the water quality at Milwaukee’s Bradford, McKinley, and South Shore beaches.

“Thanks to a continued partnership between the City of Milwaukee Health Department, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Zilber School of Public Health, and Milwaukee County Parks, we assess water quality conditions at the city’s public beaches to ensure that beachgoers have healthy summer fun,” said Commissioner of Health Bevan K. Baker.

Water at Milwaukee’s three public beaches is monitored through Labor Day. Water samples are analyzed by both the City of Milwaukee Health Department Public Health Laboratory and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for microbial contaminants, such as E.coli, that may indicate potential health risks. While E. coli is normally found in bodies of water, elevated levels can raise health concerns.

Public advisories are posted at each beach following the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources public notification system using the colors green, yellow, and red to indicate the current public advisories (signs shown below). The City of Milwaukee Health Department also posts advisories online at the City of Milwaukee Health Department website ([Milwaukee.gov/health](http://Milwaukee.gov/health)) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources’ Wisconsin Beach Health website ([wibeaches.us](http://wibeaches.us)).



**Green Placard: Risk of illness minimal**

However, health official always advise not ingesting water and maintaining awareness of other safety hazards associated with swimming.



**Yellow Placard: Risk of illness elevated**

When swimming, take precautions such as washing hands prior to eating and showering after swimming.



**Red Placard: Swimming not advised**

Beach patrons should not enter the water, there is an elevated risk of illness.

For more information, visit [www.milwaukee.gov/health](http://www.milwaukee.gov/health).

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*Think Health. Act Now!*

