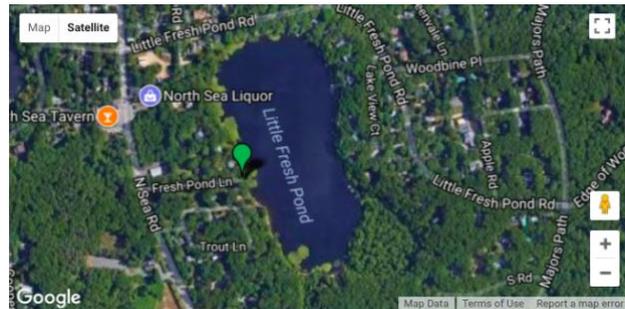


Surfrider Foundation’s Eastern Long Island Chapter: Blue Water Task Force Water Testing Program

Surfrider Foundation is dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of oceans, waves, and beaches. Surfrider Foundation’s Blue Water Task Force provides critical water quality information to protect public health, raise awareness of local water pollution problems, and bring together communities to implement solutions.

The Eastern Long Island Chapter’s Blue Water Task Force monitors water quality year-round at 50 locations in Eastern Long Island, including oceans, bays, creeks, lakes and outfall pipes. Waters are sampled for enterococcus, a coliform bacteria that indicates fecal pollution from human or animal sources. Our results are compared to the US EPA health standard for coastal recreational waters. Our local partners are the Concerned Citizens of Montauk, The Peconic Baykeeper, and Dr. Chris Gobler’s Lab at Stony Brook Southampton. Our sampling plan is designed to fill in the gaps of the Suffolk County Department of health’s beach monitoring program, which only tests lifeguarded beaches approximately 2x per summer. All 50 locations are tested weekly during the summer months, bi-weekly during the fall, and monthly during the winter. Data is shared online at go.surfrider.org/BWTF, through social media, in water quality alert email subscription, and via community presentations and talks.

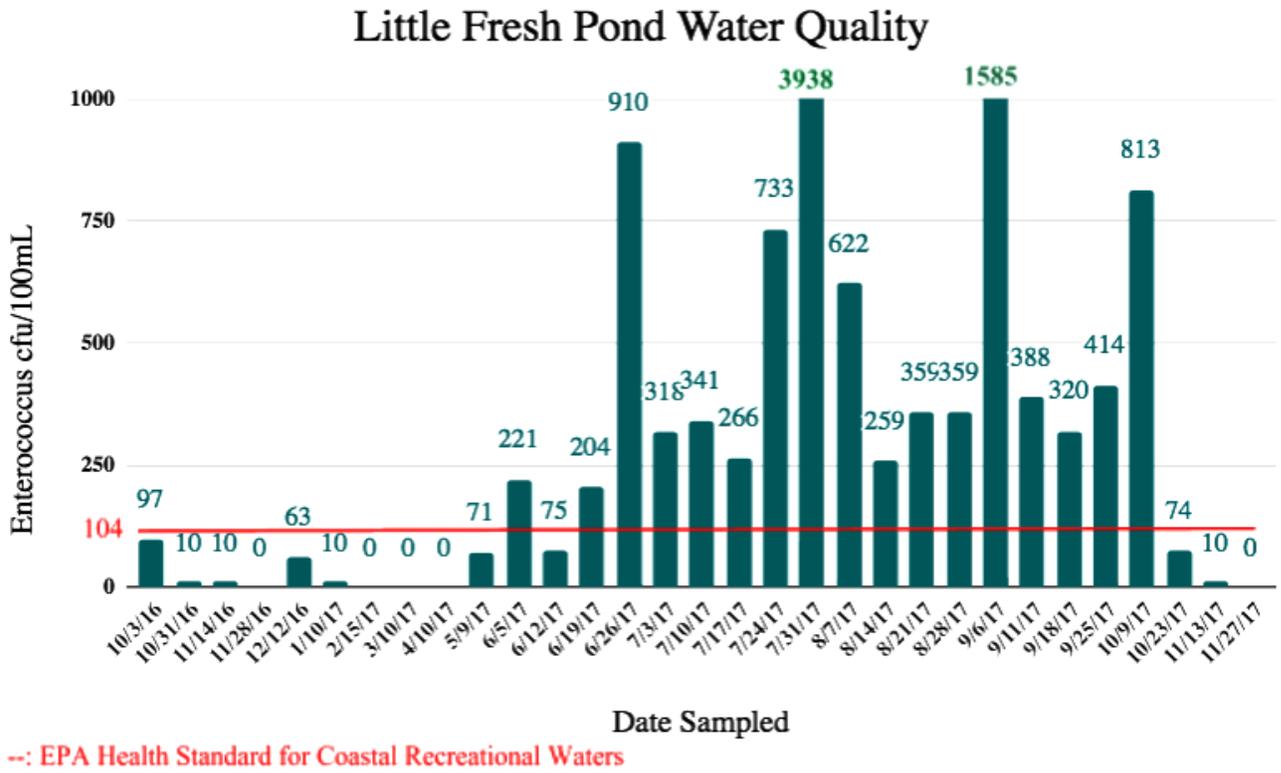
	Little Fresh Pond
Sample Count	32
% of samples failing to meet health standard	52.13%



Surfrider began sampling Little Fresh Pond in October of 2016. The sample location is on the western side of the pond, at the end of Fresh Pond Lane. To date, we have pulled over 30 samples, over half of which have been above the EPA recommended limit, which is **104 cfu/100mL** (colony forming units of enterococcus per 100 milliliter sample). The average for all of the samples we have taken is 390.63 cfu/100mL.

In addition to the high bacteria levels that we have been measuring, our members are also concerned about the increased number of water bodies that are affected by toxic blue-green algae blooms. They are a real health hazard and take away recreational opportunities for paddling, swimming and fishing. IF the proposed camp is accepted, we hope that an advanced septic system would be installed on the property to prevent further water quality degradation from pathogens and nitrogen for the campers and the entire community.

Up-to-date Blue Water Task Force data can be found online at go.surfrider.org/BWTF. For any questions regarding our sampling program, contact Colleen Henn at chenn@surfrider.org.



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