



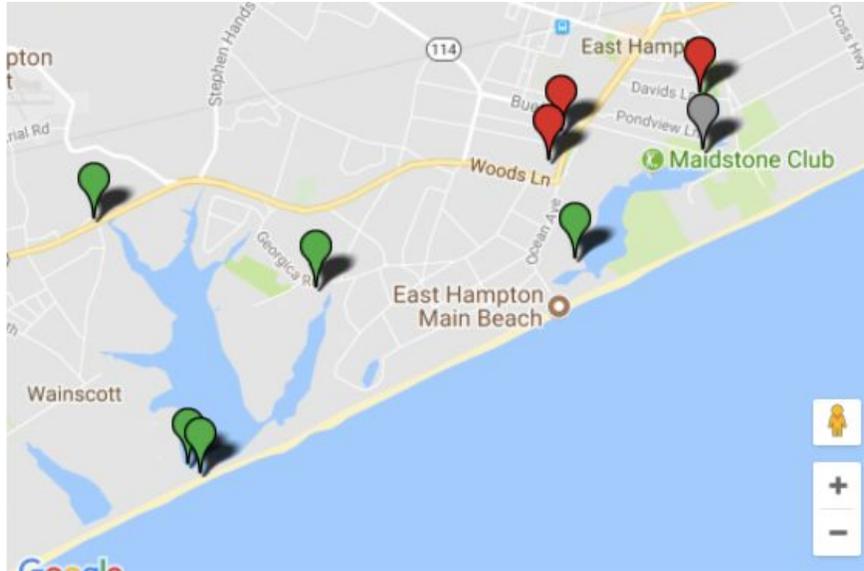
Blue Water Task Force Water Testing Program

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.

- 50 sites monitored from Hampton Bays to Montauk, year-round.
- Local partners: Concerned Citizens of Montauk, the Peconic Baykeeper & Dr. Chris Gobler's lab at Stony Brook University School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences.
- Sampling plan designed to fill in gaps of the Suffolk County Department of Health's beach monitoring program which only tests lifeguarded beaches approximately two times per summer. All sites are tested weekly during the summer months, bi-weekly during fall and spring, and monthly during the winter.
- Sampling sites include bays, estuaries, ponds, and ocean beaches are tested for enterococcus, a coliform bacteria that indicates fecal pollution from human or animal sources.
- Results compared to U.S. EPA recreational water quality health standard.
- Data shared online at go.surfrider.org/BWTF, social media, water quality alert email subscription, and via community presentations and talks. A mobile app. is also in progress with Swim Guide.

Blue Water Task Force's [*What's in Your Water*](#) water quality report, released July 2017, evaluated data from 2013-2016 and presented these three trends:

1. Bacteria levels tend to be higher in creeks and closed, still bodies of water than at open ocean and bay beaches.
2. Bacteria levels are higher during summer months (June - October).
3. Higher bacteria levels are measured after rain events.



Surfrider Sampling locations within East Hampton Village: Georgica Pond, Hook Pond, East Hampton Town Pond and the Village Green Bioswale.

Georgica Pond

Surfrider testing began July of 2015 at 3 sites: Route 27 Kayak Launch, the Pond’s Beach-side location, and the Third Jetty. Per request of a local business, a fourth site, Cove Hollow Access, was added during the summer of 2016 in hopes of finding a cleaner launch site for recreation. To date, the Blue Water Task Force has collected over 200 data points for Georgica Pond over the past three years.

	Georgica Beach Association: Third Jetty	Georgica Pond Beach-side	Georgica Pond Cove Hollow Access	Georgica Pond Route 27 Kayak Launch
Sample Count	59	61	32	59
% of samples failing to meet health standard	3.39%	19.67%	25%	42.37%

Hook Pond

Surfrider began testing Hook Pond in March of 2017 at 2 sites: Hook Pond South (on a private property at the end of Hook Pond Lane), and David’s Lane Duck Pond. To date, we have collected about 50 samples throughout hook pond.

	Hook Pond South	David's Lane Duck Pond
Sample Count	17	22
% of samples failing to meet health standard	11.76%	81.82%

Village Green Bioswale and East Hampton Town Pond

Surfrider samples the Village Green bioswale and the Town Pond less frequently. These sites are sampled when a heavy rainfall coincides with a sampling day. Meaning, we pull a sample when water is pooled up at the bioswale, and another sample at the town pond to compare the water quality at both water bodies.

Village Green Bioswale

Date Sampled	Village Green Bioswale Enterococcus (cfu/100mL)*	Town Pond Enterococcus (cfu/100mL)*
9.2.16	19,863	---
9.6.16	>24196	---
9.19.16	>24196	6015
9.26.16	---	30
10.3.16	266	31
10.10.16	12997	1081
10.27.16	83	---
12.5.16	5170	---
6.5.17	2445	10
10.30.17	8164	>24196

*cfu/100mL stands for “colony forming units” of enterococcus per 100 milliliters of a sample. The U.S. EPA Standard for Coastal Recreational Waters is 104 colony forming units/100mL. 24,196 is the maximum cfu that our methods are able to detect, indicating some of our results exceeding our test limit to determine the level of fecal pollution.

All data can be found online at go.surfrider.org/BWTF. For any questions about the program or results presented, email Colleen Henn at chenn@surfrider.org.