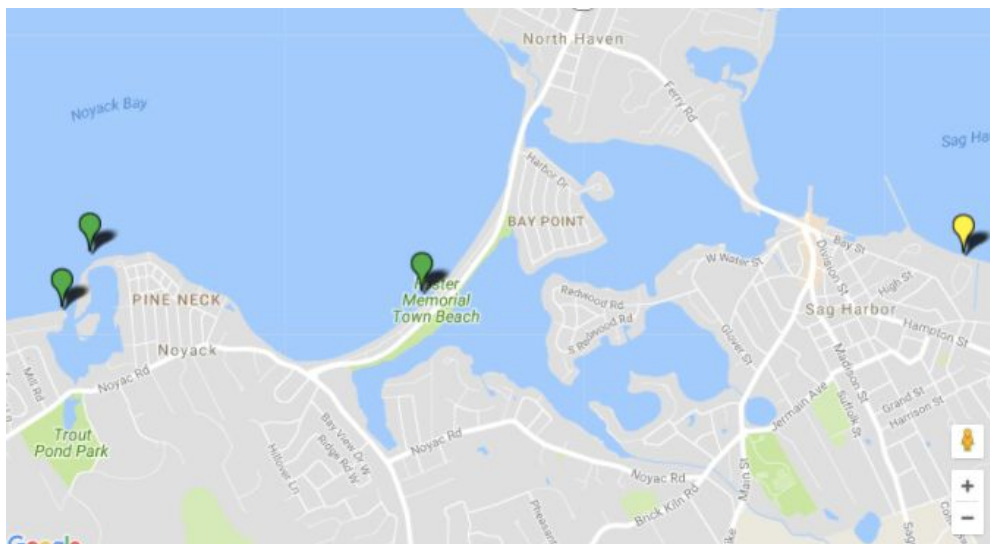




## Blue Water Task Force Water Testing Program

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, 104 cfu/100mL
- Data shared online at [go.surfrider.org/BWTF](http://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.



Surfrider Sampling Locations within Sag Harbor Village: Circle Beach Estuary, Circle Beach, Long Beach, and Havens Beach.

*\*Any inquiries about the Blue Water Task Force sampling program can be sent to [chenn@surfrider.org](mailto:chenn@surfrider.org).*

	<u>Havens Beach</u>	<u>Long Beach</u>	<u>Circle Beach</u>	<u>Circle Beach Estuary</u>
<b>Count</b>	30	28	24	16
<b># of Samples Above 104</b>	1	2	5	4
<b>% of Samples Above 104</b>	2.9%	6.1%	20.8%	25%

The EPA standard for enterococcus bacteria in coastal recreational waters is 104 colony forming units (cfu) per 100 ml of seawater. Surfrider has been sampling Havens Beach and Long Beach since September of 2016. Having pulled 30 and 28 samples at the two beaches respectively, we have found only one or two samples above the EPA limit for enterococcus bacteria. Surfrider began sampling Circle Beach and Circle Beach Estuary in June and July of 2017, having pulled 24 and 16 samples at each location respectively. These two locations have yielded more results above the EPA limit for recreational use than Havens or Long Beach. Please view the graph below showing water quality trends at Surfrider's Blue Water Task Force Sag Harbor and Noyac Sites.

### **Community Outreach**

Surfrider communicates our water quality data and local pollution concerns through education programs and hands-on workshops targeting beach-goers and surfers, community and environmental organizations, and schools and summer camps. We will also soon be promoting the use of an interactive website/ mobile app called Swim Guide to get our water quality information into the hands of people on the beach.

### **Solutions to Pollution**

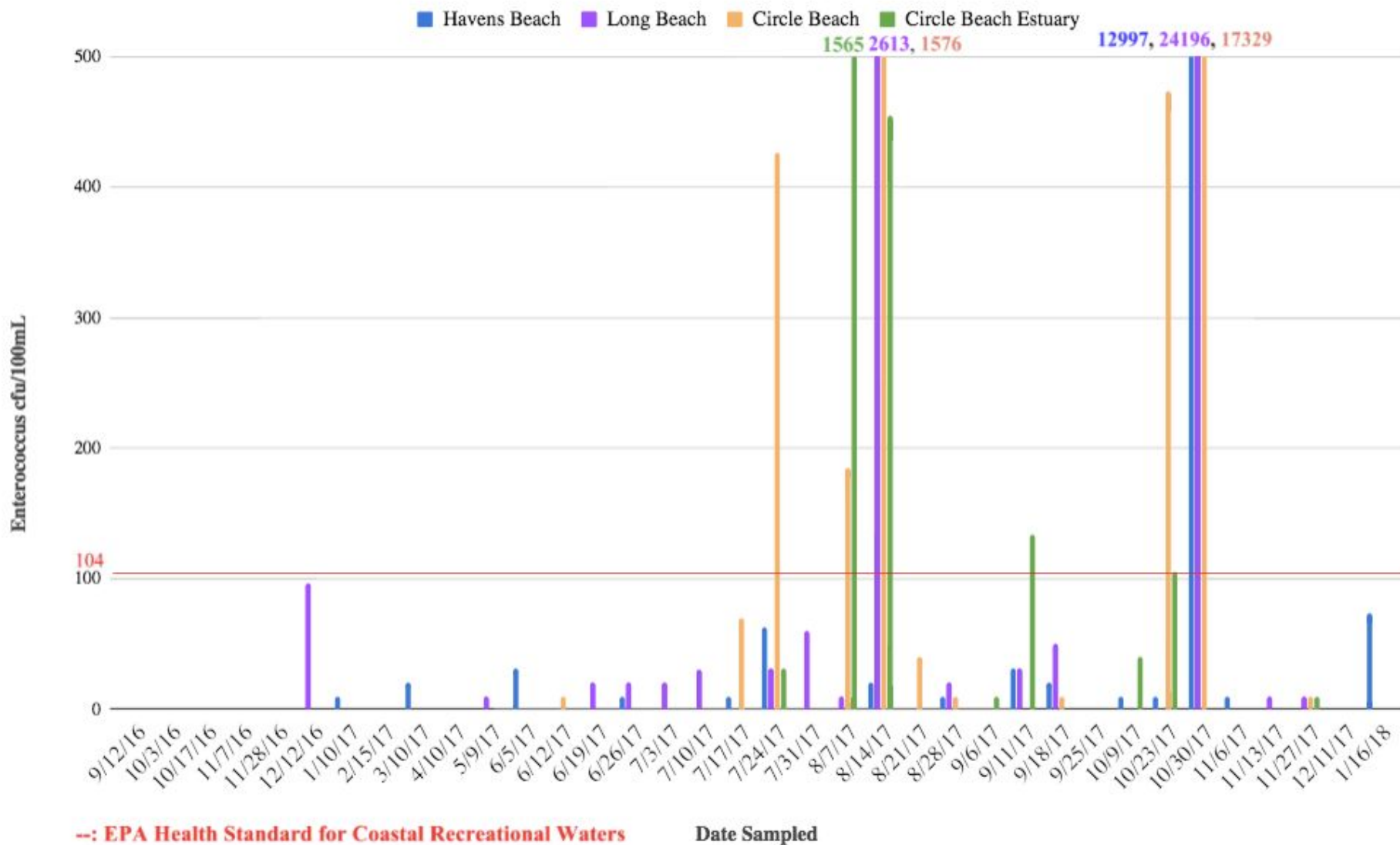
Surfrider is working to promote the new residential septic rebate and advocating for businesses to install new advanced technology septic systems, especially when asking for site improvements and expansion. We are also promoting sustainable landscaping practices through our Ocean Friendly Gardens (OFG) program. A large demo Ocean Friendly Garden was planted in the East Hampton Village Green with native plants that is soaking up the road runoff from main street, helping to filter out pollutants, before the water reaches Town Pond, Hook Pond and ultimately out to the ocean at Main Beach.

### **BWTF 2018 and Beyond**

- Continued expansion of our education program and community outreach to include more school groups: Sag Harbor Schools, East Hampton Schools, Southampton Schools, EH LVIS and Hamlet Community Advisory Committees
- Foster relationships with Towns and Villages by educating about our BWTF program and results, discussing potential sampling sites that should be monitored to inform management decisions
- Expand BWTF program to include sampling for new parameters, like nitrogen
- Research the feasibility of source tracking at problem areas

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### Sag Harbor and Noyac Water Quality



Sag Harbor Water Quality, Enterococcus cfu per 100mLseawater

Date Sampled	Havens Beach	Long Beach	Circle Beach	Circle Beach Estuary
9/12/16		0		
10/3/16	0			
10/17/16	0	0		
11/7/16	0	0		
11/28/16	0	0		
12/12/16	0	96		
1/10/17	10	0		
2/15/17	0	0		
3/10/17	20	0		
4/10/17	0	0		
5/9/17	0	10		
6/5/17	31	0	0	
6/12/17	0	0	10	
6/19/17	0	20	0	
6/26/17	10	20	0	
7/3/17	0	20	0	0
7/10/17	0	30	0	0
7/17/17	10	0	70	0
7/24/17	63	31	426	31
7/31/17	0	60	0	
8/7/17	0	10	185	1565
8/14/17	20	2613	1576	455
8/21/17	0	0	40	0
8/28/17	10	20	10	0
9/6/17	0	0	0	10
9/11/17	31	31	0	134
9/18/17	20	50	10	
9/25/17	0	0	0	0
10/9/17	10	0	0	40
10/23/17	10		474	105
10/30/17	12997	24196	17329	
11/6/17	10			
11/13/17	0	10	0	0
11/27/17	0	10	10	10
12/11/17	0	0	0	0
1/16/18	74	0	0	

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