

Weekly samples are taken for ocean water quality from 19 different locations along the coast. These samples help to monitor for bacteria that could be potentially hazardous to human health. If bacteria levels are above state standards, a **health advisory** is issued warning the public to avoid contact with the water.

Sometimes a beach will be **closed** to all water contact activities when there is a known hazardous waste spill, such as untreated sewage, that has reached a recreational water area.

It is also advised to avoid water contact activities during or 72 hours after a rain storm because there is an increased chance that the water may have been contaminated.

COMMON SYMPTOMS ASSOCIATED WITH EXPOSURE TO OCEAN WATER OF POOR BACTERIOLOGICAL QUALITY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Vomiting, Diarrhea, Nausea
- Fever, Chills
- Ear, Nose, Throat Irritation
- Skin Rash



IF YOU SEE THIS SIGN AT THE BEACH:

- Stay out of the Ocean for at least **50 yards** on either side of the sign
- There are levels of bacteria in the ocean water that may make you sick.

Where Can I Find Beach Quality Information?

Check out our website on your computer or mobile device at:

www.SurfSafeSLO.org

Here you will find a map of all of San Luis Obispo County's sample locations, current conditions and updated beach water quality current status and history.

You will also find links to other ocean water quality and surf condition sites:



You can also call our Beach Water Quality Status Hotline (805)788-3411



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