

EPA BEACH Program Updates

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Outline

- 2023 5 year review
- Emerging indicators
- HABs and cyanotoxins
- BEACH sanitary survey app
- QA change

5 Year Review

- Required as part of the BEACH Act amendments
- 5 year review of the existing RWQC and new science
- Published May 25, 2023
- 3 recommendations
 - Develop additional recommended qPRC enterococci criteria for children
 - Develop recommendations for coliphage
 - Explore how to use human fecal source identifiers for water quality management

Emerging Indicators

- Per the 2023 review, focusing on coliphage
- 2015-literature review published
- 2019-two performance based methods published
- <https://www.epa.gov/cwa-methods/other-clean-water-act-testmethods-microbiological>

HABs/Cyanotoxins

- EPA published final recommendations for microcystin and cylindrospermopsin in freshwater in May 2019
- Values can be used as WQC or swimming advisories
- EPA is working with States and Tribes to facilitate adoption
- EPA continues to develop a health effects support document for saxitoxins
- EPA's National HABs Program has released new web content at <https://www.epa.gov/cyano-habs/sargassum-inundation-events-sies>

Sanitary Survey App

- April 2023-released updates to the freshwater and marine routine surveys including changes to Parts 2-4
- Updates for FY24-Shorter surveys, levels of user rights/permissions, and updates to the data export tool
- <https://www.epa.gov/beach-tech/sanitary-surveys-recreational-waters>

QA Change

- Number of changes from HQ QA program
- For this program, change in the QA approval process
 - Technical officers can no longer be QA approver
 - Two signature requirement
 - May result in changes to the QAPP