



Town of Salem, New Hampshire
Community Development Department
Health Division

Summer Beach Testing Results

July, 2010

On July 6, 2010, water samples from association and public beaches in Salem were collected and submitted for microbiological analysis to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Laboratory in Concord. Arlington Pond Improvement Association was re-sampled on July 8 and Hedgehog Pond was re-sampled on July 8 & 12.

The samples were analyzed for bacteria, (*Escherichia coli*), the indicator organism utilized to determine safe swimming conditions. The State of New Hampshire allows up to **88** colonies of *E. coli* per sample in freshwater beaches. Two samples were collected from each beach in accordance with the NH DES "Standard Operating Procedure for Bacteria Sampling".

The following beach sites were sampled and the results are as follows:

<u>Location:</u>	<u>E. coli Results:</u> (Colonies/100 ml)
Hedgehog Pond -----	>400, >400
Shadow Lake -----	12, 20
Captain's Pond -----	56, 50
Millville Lake -----	62, 68
Arlington Pond	
Arlington Pond Improvement Assoc. -----	>400, >400
Second Street -----	4, 14

These beaches, with the exception of **Hedgehog Pond** and **Arlington Pond Improvement Association**, are in compliance with the guidelines established by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services for swimmable waters. **Swimming Advisories** were posted at **Arlington Pond** and **Hedgehog Park**. Arlington Pond was re-sampled on July 8 and the results were: 30 & 40 colonies/100 ml. The advisory was removed on July 9, 2010. Hedgehog Park was re-sampled on July 8 & 12, 2010 and the results did not change: >400 colonies/100 ml. The swimming advisory remains at this beach until the bacterial levels drop below 88. Further testing will be conducted at this beach.

Additional testing will be conducted at all the beaches in early August. Any questions, please feel free to contact the Health Officer at 890-2050.

Note: A visual inspection was conducted of these beaches to determine if Cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) were present. No algae blooms were noted.