



Beach Closures



WHY CLOSE THE BEACH?

Saltwater beaches are closed by the RI Department of Health when bacteria levels are too high, and opened again when new monitoring samples indicate that conditions have improved.

WHY COUNT BEACH CLOSURES?

Rhode Islanders cherish their personal relationship with the shore, and beach visitors from near and far are an important part of the region's tourism economy. Beach closures hurt our quality of life and affect tourism. Closures are closely linked to rainfall as stormwater runoff is a significant source of bacteria to many beaches.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Stormwater management and improved infrastructure like the Providence CSO project leads to fewer beach closures. Continued investment in monitoring allows us to find and eliminate sources of contamination.

watershedcounts.org

