



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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**DOH WARNS PUBLIC TO STAY OUT OF
KUALOA BEACH PARK WATERS THIS WEEKEND**

HONOLULU - The Department of Health is warning beachgoers to stay out of the waters off Kualoa Beach Park through the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend because of suspected sewage in the water. The DOH Clean Water Branch is posting Warning signs at Kualoa Beach Park today.

"We know this may be an inconvenience to the public over the long weekend, but as a precaution, it's best to stay out of the water at this time because of suspected sewage in the water," said Laurence Lau, Deputy Director for Environmental Health.

Test results from Clean Water Branch beach monitoring at Kualoa Beach Park indicates bacteria levels have exceeded Hawaii's geometric mean standard of 7 cfu/100mL and the national geometric mean standard of 35 cfu/100mL for enterococci. The current enterococci geometric mean at Kualoa is 57.49 cfu/100mL. The secondary indicator, clostridium perfringens, also was elevated at 26 cfu/100mL in a CWB sample this week. The combination of results, plus prior investigations, leads the CWB to believe that sewage has entered the water. Investigations will continue. The Department is warning the public as a precaution.

The City and County of Honolulu, Parks and Recreation at Kualoa have been notified. Warning signs will be up throughout the weekend. Clean Water Branch will expand water monitoring at Kualoa Beach Park until test results return to safe levels.

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