



Hudson River Water Quality Report: June 15 - 18, 2010

Together with our science partners from Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and Queens College, Riverkeeper sampled for *Enterococcus* (an indicator of untreated sewage) at our 75 standard sampling locations between June 15 and June 18.

Summary

Unacceptable *Enterococcus* (*Entero*) counts were found at 14 sampling sites, compared with 4 in May. Eleven of the 14 were from Castleton north. New York Harbor and the waters around Manhattan had lower *Entero* counts than the upper estuary.

Conditions

Rainfall during this patrol was greater than in May – but still relatively light throughout. A cold front passed through mid patrol with some showers – rainfall records indicate more in the northern half of the estuary in the days before sampling.

Some Observations

- [Upper Sparkill Creek](#) (above the tide): Unacceptable again, as in May, and this month, the cell count was even higher.
- [Orangetown and Rockland sewer plants combined outfall at Piermont Pier](#): The outfall tested high this month. This location has unacceptably high *Entero* counts roughly half of the days we sample [5 of 6 times in 2006, 4 of 11 times in 2007, 5 of 8 times in 2008 and 3 of 7 times in 2009]. So far this year, it was acceptable when we sampled in May but not so on June 16 – so we're right where we would expect – only 50% acceptable. This is the only outfall where I see cormorants and Herring Gulls fishing. They are hitting small bait fish which seem to almost always be present at this outfall. What are the fish eating?
- [Newburg launch ramp](#): Water quality was unacceptable on June 17. In 2008, 6 of 6 samples we collected at this location were acceptable. In 2009, only 2 of 7 were acceptable. What changed? So far this year, the May sample passed but June was unacceptably high even though more rain was recorded prior to sampling in May. It appears that there are other factors than rain affecting cell counts at this location.
- [Catskill Creek](#): This month, we found higher *Entero* counts near the mouth than farther in the Creek at the first bridge. Usually the reverse is true.
- [Mohawk and Hudson Rivers above their confluence at Waterford](#): As when we sampled in May, the Mohawk side was unacceptable and the Hudson was okay. This is the usual pattern we've measured here since May 2008 – the Hudson generally tests lower for *Entero* than the Mohawk.

June 2010 Sampling Data

For River Mile 0 to River Mile 44, the following standards apply:

 Enterococcus count (under 35/100ml) is acceptable by EPA standards*

 Enterococcus count (between 35 and 104/100ml), if sustained over time, would be unacceptable by EPA standards*

 Enterococcus count (over 104/100ml) is unacceptable by EPA standards*

River Mile	Site Name	Sample Date	Enterococcus Count	Quality
0.1	The Battery midchannel	June 15, 2010	0	Acceptable
2.5	East River midchannel at 23rd St.	June 15, 2010	0	Acceptable
2.6	Newtown Creek- Dutch Kills	June 15, 2010	0	Acceptable
2.7	Newtown Creek- Metropolitan Ave. Bridge	June 15, 2010	10	Acceptable
4	East River at Roosevelt Island	June 15, 2010	0	Acceptable
4.7	Castle Point, NJ	June 15, 2010	0	Acceptable
6	Pier 96 Kayak Launch	June 15, 2010	10	Acceptable
7	79th St. midchannel	June 15, 2010	20	Acceptable
7.9	125th St. Pier	June 15, 2010	86	Possible Risk
8	George Washington Bridge midchannel	June 15, 2010	20	Acceptable
8.1	Harlem River- Washington Ave. Bridge	June 15, 2010	10	Acceptable
12	GW Bridge midchannel	June 15, 2010	10	Acceptable
12.1	Harlem River- Willis Ave. Bridge	June 15, 2010	0	Acceptable
14	Dyckman St. Beach	June 15, 2010	20	Acceptable
17.5	Yonkers Wastewater Treatment Plant Outfall	June 16, 2010	0	Acceptable
18.4	Saw Mill River	June 16, 2010	51	Possible Risk

18.5	Yonkers midchannel	June 16, 2010	20	Acceptable
25.9	Irvington Beach	June 16, 2010	0	Acceptable
26	Piermont Sewage Treatment Plant Outfall	June 16, 2010	134	Unacceptable
26.1	Piermont Pier	June 16, 2010	10	Acceptable
26.5	Upper Sparkill Creek	June 21, 2010	1046	Unacceptable
27.5	Tappan Zee Bridge midchannel	June 16, 2010	0	Acceptable
28	Kingsland Point Park and Pocantico River	June 16, 2010	0	Acceptable
28.1	Nyack Launch Ramp	June 16, 2010	30	Acceptable
34	Ossining Beach	June 16, 2010	10	Acceptable
35	Croton Point Beach	June 16, 2010	0	Acceptable
35.5	Haverstraw Bay midchannel	June 16, 2010	20	Acceptable
38	Furnace Brook	June 16, 2010	10	Acceptable
39	Emeline Beach	June 16, 2010	0	Acceptable
40	Cedar Pond Brook	June 16, 2010	10	Acceptable
40.5	Stony Point midchannel	June 16, 2010	0	Acceptable
43	Peekskill Riverfront Green Park	June 16, 2010	10	Acceptable
44	Annesville Creek	June 16, 2010	10	Acceptable

For River Mile River Mile 45 north, the following standards apply:

Enterococcus count (under 33/100ml) is acceptable by EPA standards*
 Enterococcus count (between 33 and 61/100ml), if sustained over time, would be unacceptable by EPA standards*
 Enterococcus count (over 61/100ml) is unacceptable by EPA standards*

River Mile	Site Name	Sample Date	<i>Enterococcus</i> Count	Quality
46	Fort Montgomery	June 17, 2010	13	Acceptable
52.5	West Point Sewage Treatment Plant Outfall	June 17, 2010	6	Acceptable
53.5	Cold Spring Harbor	June 17, 2010	26	Acceptable
54	Little Stony Point	June 17, 2010	6	Acceptable
60	Newburgh Launch Ramp	June 17, 2010	225	Unacceptable
61	Beacon Harbor	June 17, 2010	50	Possible Risk
66.5	Wappingers Creek	June 17, 2010	16	Acceptable
68	Marlboro Landing	June 17, 2010	15	Acceptable
75	Poughkeepsie Launch Ramp	June 17, 2010	12	Acceptable
77	Poughkeepsie Drinking Water Intake	June 17, 2010	5	Acceptable
84.5	Norrie Point midchannel	June 17, 2010	2	Acceptable
85	Norrie Point Yacht Basin	June 17, 2010	32	Acceptable
88	Port Ewen Drinking Water Intake	June 17, 2010	1	Acceptable
92	Kingston Point Beach	June 18, 2010	11	Acceptable

92.1	Kingston Sewage Treatment Plant Outfall	June 18, 2010	33	Possible Risk
92.2	Kingston Public Dock	June 17, 2010	31	Acceptable
92.3	Eddyville Anchorage	June 17, 2010	24	Acceptable
97	Ulster Landing Beach	June 18, 2010	29	Acceptable
99	Tivoli Landing	June 18, 2010	5	Acceptable
102	Esopus Creek Entrance	June 18, 2010	11	Acceptable
102.1	Esopus Creek West	June 18, 2010	23	Acceptable
103	Malden Launch Ramp	June 18, 2010	10	Acceptable
108.5	Inbocht Bay	June 18, 2010	7	Acceptable
113	Catskill Launch Ramp	June 18, 2010	6	Acceptable
113.1	Catskill Creek – East End	June 18, 2010	261	Unacceptable
113.2	Catskill Creek – First Bridge	June 18, 2010	36	Possible Risk
116.5	Hudson Launch Ramp	June 18, 2010	65	Unacceptable
117	Athens Sewage Treatment Plant Outfall	June 18, 2010	76	Unacceptable
122.5	Gay's Point Midchannel	June 18, 2010	14	Acceptable
124	Coxsackie Waterfront Park	June 18, 2010	12	Acceptable
133	Coeymans Landing	June 18, 2010	16	Acceptable

137	Castleton- Vlockie Kill	June 18, 2010	64	Unacceptable
138	Bethlehem Launch Ramp	June 18, 2010	91	Unacceptable
142	Island Creek/Normans Kill	June 18, 2010	137	Unacceptable
144.5	Dunn Memorial Bridge	June 18, 2010	135	Unacceptable
146	Albany Rowing Dock	June 18, 2010	139	Unacceptable
151.5	Congress Street Bridge	June 18, 2010	602	Unacceptable
152.5	Hudson River above Troy Lock	June 18, 2010	387	Unacceptable
155	Mohawk River	June 18, 2010	479	Unacceptable
155.1	Hudson above confluence with Mohawk River	June 18, 2010	23	Acceptable

To learn more about Riverkeeper's Water Quality Program, and to view historic sampling data, please visit www.riverkeeper.org/water-quality/hudson.