



Hudson River Water Quality Report: July 19-22, 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 74 standard sampling locations between July 19 and July 22.

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

Summary and Conditions

July's results are pretty complex - this patrol highlights the local nature of our sewage pollution problems.

This month, 17 sample sites (of 74) had unacceptable *Enterococcus* (Entero) counts. By comparison, we saw 14 'unacceptable' sites in June, and only 4 in May. Like the earlier months, we had no region-wide rain event during this sampling patrol. However, we did see some significant, often heavy, local rain events. For example, we got a heavy thunderstorm in Kingston on the 20th and on the 21st. While NY City stayed dry, we got a deluge in Rockland and Westchester. Patchy rain seems to have resulted in patchy water quality.

By the way, in July, we conducted our survey southbound, instead of the usual, northbound. In addition, we sampled NY Harbor out of sequence to take advantage of a NY Times press opportunity on Newtown Creek. No matter however, as this is a monthly random sampling study.

Some Observations

- **NY Harbor:** Again, for the third month in a row, Entero counts at all stations around Manhattan were "acceptable" on the day we sampled (7/21).
- **Yonkers to the Bear Mountain Bridge:** Almost half of the sites tested "unacceptable" with neighboring sites almost alternating between 'acceptable' and 'unacceptable' along the River's course, an unusual pattern that highlights how local contamination events can be.
- **West Point to Newburg:** All stations were "unacceptable." While we're not surprised by this at the Newburg ramp, high Entero counts at Cold Spring and Little Stony Point are unusual. It's too bad, for two years I've been using Little Stony Point as an example of a location where we had




never measured an “unacceptable” cell count. Still, our large database helps us put this event in context.

- **Beacon to mouth of Rondout Creek:** All sites were “acceptable.” Inside Rondout Creek however, both the local waterfront at the Strand and the water at the sewage treatment plant (STP) outfall were not. About ½ of the samples (53%) taken at the Kingston STP outfall have been “unacceptable” since we first sampled there in May 2008. But, as the count at the Strand was the higher of the two on the 20th, there may be a separate discharge close to the Strand as well.
- **Kingston Point to the Bethlehem launch ramp:** All “acceptable.”
- **“Albany Pool”:** We found high Entero counts at Island Creek (Norman’s Kill) and at the Dunn Memorial Bridge. Since May 2008, about 2/3 (64%) of the samples we’ve collected at Island Creek have been “unacceptable” as have 44% of those at the Dunn Memorial Bridge.
- **Hudson River above Troy Lock:** 40% of our samples collected since 2008 at this site have been “unacceptable.” The lock keepers at the Troy lock have complained of raw sewage coming from a storm drain on the east bank at this location but I have never witnessed/photographed any useful evidence. It is interesting that both samples taken upriver at Waterford were “acceptable” this month – so we may be seeing the effect of a local discharge just above the Troy lock.

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July 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*
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River Mile	Site Name	Sample Date	Enterococcus Count	Quality
0.1	The Battery midchannel	July 21, 2010	10	Acceptable
2.5	East River midchannel at 23rd St.	July 21, 2010	0	Acceptable
2.6	Newtown Creek- Dutch Kills	July 21, 2010	0	Acceptable
2.7	Newtown Creek- Metropolitan Ave. Bridge	July 21, 2010	30	Acceptable
4	East River at Roosevelt Island	July 21, 2010	0	Acceptable
4.7	Castle Point, NJ	July 21, 2010	0	Acceptable

6	Pier 96 Kayak Launch	July 21, 2010	0	Acceptable
7	79th St. midchannel	July 21, 2010	0	Acceptable
7.9	125th St. Pier	July 21, 2010	0	Acceptable
8	125th St. WWTP Outfall	July 21, 2010	10	Acceptable
8.1	Harlem River- Washington Ave. Bridge	July 21, 2010	0	Acceptable
12	GW Bridge midchannel	July 21, 2010	0	Acceptable
12.1	Harlem River- Willis Ave. Bridge	July 21, 2010	0	Acceptable
14	Dyckman St. Beach	July 21, 2010	0	Acceptable
17.5	Yonkers Wastewater Treatment Plant Outfall	July 22, 2010	0	Acceptable
18.4	Saw Mill River	July 22, 2010	1274	Unacceptable
18.5	Yonkers midchannel	July 22, 2010	0	Acceptable
25.9	Irvington Beach	July 22, 2010	31	Acceptable
26	Piermont Sewage Treatment Plant Outfall	July 22, 2010	120	Unacceptable
26.1	Piermont Pier	July 22, 2010	74	Possible Risk
26.5	Upper Sparkill Creek	July 26, 2010	2421	Unacceptable
27	Tarrytown marina	July 22, 2010	3654	Unacceptable
27.5	Tappan Zee Bridge midchannel	July 22, 2010	0	Acceptable
28	Kingsland Point Park and Pocantico River	July 22, 2010	939	Unacceptable
28.1	Nyack Launch Ramp	July 22, 2010	10	Acceptable
34	Ossining Beach	July 22, 2010	441	Unacceptable
35	Croton Point Beach	July 22, 2010	41	Possible Risk
35.5	Haverstraw Bay midchannel	July 22, 2010	0	Acceptable
38	Furnace Brook	July 22, 2010	132	Unacceptable
39	Emeline Beach	July 22, 2010	20	Acceptable
40	Cedar Pond Brook	July 22, 2010	563	Unacceptable
40.5	Stony Point midchannel	July 22, 2010	10	Acceptable
43	Peekskill Riverfront Green Park	July 22, 2010	73	Possible Risk
44	Annesville Creek	July 22, 2010	275	Unacceptable

For 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	Enterococcus Count	Quality
46	Fort Montgomery	July 20, 2010	15	Acceptable
52.5	West Point Sewage Treatment Plant Outfall	July 20, 2010	91	Unacceptable
53.5	Cold Spring Harbor	July 20, 2010	184	Unacceptable
54	Little Stony Point	July 20, 2010	99	Unacceptable

60	Newburgh Launch Ramp	July 20, 2010	1300	Unacceptable
61	Beacon Harbor	July 20, 2010	28	Acceptable
66.5	Wappingers Creek	July 20, 2010	16	Acceptable
68	Marlboro Landing	July 20, 2010	22	Acceptable
75	Poughkeepsie Launch Ramp	July 20, 2010	4	Acceptable
77	Poughkeepsie Drinking Water Intake	July 20, 2010	0	Acceptable
84.5	Norrie Point midchannel	July 20, 2010	1	Acceptable
85	Norrie Point Yacht Basin	July 20, 2010	14	Acceptable
88	Port Ewen Drinking Water Intake	July 20, 2010	0	Acceptable
92	Kingston Point Beach	July 20, 2010	15	Acceptable
92.1	Kingston Sewage Treatment Plant Outfall	July 20, 2010	99	Unacceptable
92.2	Kingston Public Dock	July 20, 2010	288	Unacceptable
92.3	Eddyville Anchorage	July 20, 2010	43	Possible Risk
97	Ulster Landing Beach	July 19, 2010	3	Acceptable
99	Tivoli Landing	July 19, 2010	1	Acceptable
102	Esopus Creek Entrance	July 19, 2010	6	Acceptable
102.1	Esopus Creek West	July 19, 2010	5	Acceptable
103	Malden Launch Ramp	July 19, 2010	5	Acceptable
108.5	Inbocht Bay	July 19, 2010	2	Acceptable
113	Catskill Launch Ramp	July 19, 2010	2	Acceptable
113.1	Catskill Creek – East End	July 19, 2010	4	Acceptable
113.2	Catskill Creek – First Bridge	July 19, 2010	2	Acceptable
116.5	Hudson Launch Ramp	July 19, 2010	11	Acceptable
117	Athens Sewage Treatment Plant Outfall	July 19, 2010	20	Acceptable
122.5	Gay's Point Midchannel	July 19, 2010	5	Acceptable
124	Coxsackie Waterfront Park	July 19, 2010	3	Acceptable
133	Coeymans Landing	July 19, 2010	10	Acceptable
137	Castleton- Vlockie Kill	July 19, 2010	5	Acceptable
138	Bethlehem Launch Ramp	July 19, 2010	32	Acceptable
142	Island Creek/Normans Kill	July 19, 2010	122	Unacceptable
144.5	Dunn Memorial Bridge	July 19, 2010	179	Unacceptable
146	Albany Rowing Dock	July 19, 2010	51	Possible Risk
151.5	Congress Street Bridge	July 19, 2010	50	Possible Risk
152.5	Hudson River above Troy Lock	July 19, 2010	579	Unacceptable
155	Mohawk River	July 19, 2010	42	Possible Risk
155.1	Hudson above confluence with Mohawk River	July 19, 2010	31	Acceptable

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