



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

Escambia County Health Department Pensacola, Florida

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Health advisory **rescinded** for Gulf Islands National Seashore

PENSACOLA -- Effective immediately, the Escambia County (FL) Health Department is rescinding the health advisory issued on June 23, 2010 for the following beach waters in Escambia County, Florida, that were affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill:

Gulf Islands National Seashore (both Ft. Pickens and Johnson Beach areas)

"This is a highly dynamic situation varying by tide, current, and wind changes/direction," said health department director Dr. John Lanza. "We expect to frequently give and rescind advisories along our beaches."

The health department is rescinding its health advisory now that government officials verify that there is no oil sheen or oil slick observed in the water from the high water mark out to 100 yards from shore. Officials continue to recommend that beachgoers avoid contact with tar balls. However, if an individual's skin comes into contact with tar:

- 1.) Wash with soap and large amounts of water. Health officials discourage the use of gasoline, kerosene or other solvents to clean oil from skin.
- 2.) If tar is not removed with soap and water, scrape off the excess tar from your skin and apply a grease removing agent – such as a liquid grease-cutting dish detergent -- or mineral oil. Rinse your skin with large amounts of fresh water.
- 3.) Remove contaminated clothing.
- 4.) If symptoms or irritation occur, call a physician.

Government officials continue to monitor the water for impact from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

For more information contact:

- o Escambia County Health Department at (850)595-6700 and www.EscambiaHealth.com



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- Escambia County Citizen's Information Line at 471-6600 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CDT (Monday – Sunday) or www.escambiadisasterresponse.com
- Florida Oil Spill Information Line at (888)337-3569

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Escambia County Health Department

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