

**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2004 12:18 PM

**Subject:** MANY NOT GETTING TO ENJOY SUMMER TO THE FULLEST -- BEACH CLOSINGS INCREASE 50%

*Dear Aquathin Dealer OnLine, Splash NewsBulletin and Allergic Reaction NewsBulletin Members;*

*Thankfully, living by the ocean here, we do not see beach closings. But head south into the beautiful Florida Keys, or north where the sewage outfall pipe blows black water (recall my email on the "color of ocean floor is white due to non biodegradable cigarette filters", and its a different story. Below you will read about the massive amount of beach closings...and this is only the U.S. Interior Europe i.e. Holland, often you will see beach accessibility of only a few days a year.*

*The scary part in the quick read below...source of contamination is often unknown. Remember...everyone lives downstream from each other, and these "unknowns" often end up in municipal freshwater intakes.*

*I LOVE MY AQUATHIN !*

*Warmest regards to all...as well, your comments are always welcome and very much appreciated.*

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*"Alfie"*

*Alfred J. Lipshultz, President*

***P.S. "Splash NewsBulletins", "Forum Q & A", "Allergic Reaction", Biz Bank, Tech Bank and Quote Bank... ARE ALL FREE services to all Authorized Aquathin Dealers and their clients to keep you abreast of technology updates and industry news.***

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**Worst Year on Record for Beach Closings**

August 11, 2004

U.S. beaches last year were closed more frequently due to pollution and beach officials issued more pollution advis

than in any other year for the last 14 years, according to the latest annual beach report released by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC; New York). More than 18,000 days of such closings and advisories were issued at U.S. and Great Lakes beaches in 2003, according to the report, *Testing the Waters: A Guide to Water Quality at Vacation Beaches*. This is more than 50% higher than the number of such instances that occurred in 2002, the report says. Part of the increase is due to the availability of increased funding for beach water quality monitoring provided by the federal Beaches, Environmental Assessment, Closure, and Health Act of 2000. Another factor contributing to the increase is the adoption by some states of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's health standards for beach water quality, as well as an increased frequency of monitoring, according to an NRDC press statement. However, the statement notes, "**one of the report's most disturbing findings is that local authorities did not know the sources of pollution causing or contributing to 68 percent of the closing and advisory days last year - the highest rate of 'unknown sources' in 14 years NRDC has been issuing the survey.**" Nearly 90% of the closings and advisories were attributed to high bacteria levels, the statement says. "**We know that the high bacteria levels that cause most closings and advisories come from two sources - inadequately treated sewage and contaminated stormwater,**" said Nancy Stoner, director of NRDC's Clean Water Project, according to the press statement. "**We have a major water system breakdown across the country, and local, state and federal authorities need to wake up and fix it.**" The report, which includes several policy recommendations for reducing beach water pollution, is accessible online. NRDC is a nonprofit organization of scientists, lawyers, and environmental specialists whose mission is to protect public health and the environment.

Source: *WEF* August 11, 2004