COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF SHELLFISH SAFETY

Colin M. Greene, MD, MPH
State Health Commissioner

109 Governor Street, 6th Floor
P.O. Box 2448
Richmond, Virginia 23218-2448

Ph: 804-864-7487
Fax: 804-864-7481

ASSATEAGUE CHANNEL AND OYSTER BAY

Growing Area # 102
Accomack County
Shoreline Sanitary Survey

Date: 26 September 2022
Survey Period: September 9, 2021 - September 9, 2022
Total Number of Properties Surveyed & Near-shore Samples Collected: 266
Surveyed By: T. Charnock, R. Snead, D. Miller, I.Geeson

SECTION A: GENERAL

This survey area includes the bay and seaside shoreline of the portion of Chincoteague Island north of Maddox Boulevard and the northern portion of Assateague Island from Beach Road to the Virginia - Maryland state line.

The topography of this area is low with maximum elevations of 5' on Chincoteague Island and 10' on Assateague Island. Flooding and ponding occurs in the low-lying areas during storms and unusually high tides. The economy of both islands are based primarily on tourism. Chincoteague Island has a productive shellfish aquaculture industry and other seafood processing operations. Chincoteague Island is densely populated with significant seasonal variation due to a large number of dwellings used as vacation homes.

Assateague Island is sparsely populated with the majority of the land mass occupied by the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge. A high level of tourist traffic visits the park beaches and pony-viewing areas in summer months. The Virginia pony herd is owned by the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company and is permitted by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The maximum number of ponies allowed is 150 and their population is controlled by an annual auction.

Several small fishing cabins and "oyster watch houses" are near or over portions of the waters in the marshy northern part of this Growing Area. The owners were contacted and it was verified that each is disposing of their sewage in an acceptable manner.

The sewage disposal systems serving residential and commercial properties on Chincoteague Island are cesspools, septic tanks with drain fields, or approved alternative systems, such as mounds and sand filtration systems. As cesspools age and experience increased seasonal demand, they are being replaced with alternative systems that are better suited to low ground. Several businesses and a few private residences have DEQ approved Waste Water Treatment Plants with discharges into Chincoteague Channel.

Meteorological data indicated that a total of 29.53” of rain fell during the survey period. A monthly breakdown of rainfall is as follows:

September 9-30	1.13”	October	1.4”	November	1.04”	December	1.12”
January	4.59”	February	1.35”	March	4.35”	April	1.59”
May	5.3”	June	2.62”	July	3.6”	August	1.3”
September 1-6	0.06”						

Nearshore seawater stations were established to survey the full extent of waters beyond routine classification stations. Stations were created in closer proximity to the shoreline and farther upstream than routine stations and are intended to evaluate drainage entry points of potential point and nonpoint source pollution. Station data were analyzed to compare relative concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria within the waterway to identify potential onshore sources of contamination.

Hydrographic data, sampling times and range of enterococcus concentrations measured are shown in the table below. Maps of the enterococcus sampling are shown at the conclusion of this report.

Growing Area 102 Nearshore Sampling				Rainfall in Inches		
Sample Dates	High Tide*	Sampling Times	Enterococcus range (MPN/100ml)	Day of	Previous 24 hours	Previous 7 days
10/15/21	04:56	09:00-10:16	<10 - 31	0	0	.06”
10/28/21	02:07	10:37-11:17	<10 - 52	0	0	.55
12/7/21	10:34	09:54-10:25	<10 - 10	0	0	0
3/16/22	08:02	09:53-11:26	<10 -10	0	0	1.8
3/29/22	07:07	09:56-10:37	<10 -10	0	0	1.85
5/31/22	08:41	10:23-12:05	<10 - 75	0	0	1.3
6/1/22	10:27	10:56-12:35	<10 -10	0	0	.52
6/13/22	07:55	09:28-11:07	<10 - 1,314	0	.83	1
6/27/22	07:56	09:57-11:18	<10 - 20	.44	0	.15
7/14/22	09:25	10:25-11:29	<10 - 30	0	0	1.69
8/1/22	11:39	11:43-11:54	<10 - 20	0	.05	.57
8/17/22	12:51	14:20	52	0	.22	.51
8/25/22	07:47	08:25-10:53	<10 - 213	0	0	.03
8/29/22	10:30	10:45	52	0	0	.23
9/6/22	05:05	10:04-10:35	<10	.06	0	.29
				Total Rainfall for sampling period (10/15/21 to 9/6/22):		28.21”

*High tide estimated from USCG station Chincoteague Inlet

Information in this report is gathered by and primarily for use by the Division of Shellfish Safety, Virginia Department of Health, in order to fulfill its responsibilities of shellfish growing area supervision and classification. However, the data are made available to various agencies participating in shellfish program coordinated activities or other interested parties.

Copies of VPDES permits and inspections are available at the Department of Environmental Quality. A directory and interactive map are available via the internet at https://www.deq.virginia.gov/permits-regulations/permits/water/surface-water-virginia-pollutant-discharge-elimination-system and https://geohub-vadeq.hub.arcgis.com/pages/Water%20Datasets

Copies of Bacteriological, Hydrographic and Shellfish Closure data are available at the area office for review. Copies of the current condemnation notices and maps are available via the Internet at http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/shellfish/.

This report lists only those properties which have a sanitary deficiency or have other environmental significance. ***"DIRECT"*** indicates that the significant activity or deficiency has a direct impact on shellfish waters.

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Shoreline Survey # 102

SECTION B: SEWAGE POLLUTION SOURCES

	GA #	Field #	Inspection Date	Deficiency or Pollution Type	Latitude	Longitude	Address	Pollutant Remarks	Septic System Type	Structure Type	Contact	Overall Site Remarks	Locality	DSS Staff	Date of Correction	Correction Notes
4822	102	T3	9/12/2022	SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY, direct	37.936499	-75.373624	4195 Main Street, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	DEQ permit #VA0089265. Design Flow 0.009 MGD Avg 0.006 Max 0.025 MGD. DSSWH has latest inspection on file.	Alt	Business	N	Blue and grey siding with white trim. Three story suites.	Accomack	TC		
4823	102	T4	9/9/2022	SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY, direct	37.936085	-75.374574	4179 Main Street, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	DEQ permit #VA0090506. Design Flow 0.01 MGD Avg 0.005 Max 0.017 MGD. DSSWH has latest DEQ inspection on file.	NA	Business	N	Tan building with white trim.	Accomack	TC		
4834	102	T11	9/6/2022	SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY, direct	37.941024	-75.368111	4453 Main Street, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	VPDES permit # VAG403047. 2 Households, Flow <1000 GPD.. DSSWH has latest DEQ inspection on file.	Alt	Dwelling	N	Three story dwelling. Yellow siding with red trim.	Accomack	TC		
5015	102	T11.5	9/6/2022	SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY, direct	37.940756	-75.368388	4439 Main Street, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	DEQ permit # VAG403068 on file. <1000 GPD Flow.	Alt	Dwelling	N	2 story dwelling with garage to right of house.	Accomack	TC		
2023	102	T2	9/12/2022	CONTRIBUTES POLLUTION, indirect	37.935372	-75.366461	6273 Maddox Boulevard, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	Lid of lift station has holes in it. Odor present at inspection. Also building has pipe sticking out from back side with a hose coming out to area near pump station.	Alt	Business	N	Small building with green siding and brown roof. Appears to be a laundry room/ office.	Accomack	TC		
4836	102	T12	5/26/2022	CONTRIBUTES POLLUTION, indirect	37.943272	-75.363628	4586 Main Street, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	Alarm ring and light on one of the lift station alarms on north end of building.	Conv	Public	Y	Chincoteague High School septic tank area on North side of property.	Accomack	TC	5/26/2022	Visited site and alarm's indicated system was functioning properly.

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SECTION C: NONSEWAGE WASTE SITES

	GA #	Field #	Inspection Date	Deficiency or Pollution Type	Latitude	Longitude	Address	Pollutant Remarks	Septic System Type	Structure Type	Contact	Overall Site Remarks	Locality	DSS Staff
4825	102	T6	5/26/2022	INDUSTRIAL WASTES, direct	37.935411	-75.375416	4147 Main Street, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	Washdown waste discharges into the Chincoteague Channel. General permit # VAG523020.	NA	Business	Y	Chincoteague Fisheries. Office with several trailer body coolers. Dock area with approx. 6 slips.	Accomack	TC
4982	102	T15	9/8/2022	INDUSTRIAL WASTES, direct	37.934692	-75.377370	Waterfront Park, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	DEQ permit #640030. DSSWH has last DEQ inspection on file.	Alt	Public	N	Chincoteague Town Water Treatment Plant. Potable water discharge plant.	Accomack	TC
2004	102	T1	5/26/2022	SOLID WASTE SITES, indirect	37.936046	-75.358718	5073 Deep Hole Road, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	6 dumpsters for trash and 8 small white recycle bins. Single restroom in employee office. Waste goes into septic tank.	Alt	Public	Y	Accomac Waste Convenience Center	Accomack	TC

SECTION D: BOATING ACTIVITY

	GA #	Field #	Inspection Date	Deficiency or Pollution Type	Latitude	Longitude	Address	Pollutant Remarks	Septic System Type	Structure Type	Contact	Overall Site Remarks	Locality	Boating Activity Type	Number of Wet Slips	NUM BOATS <26'	NUM BOATS >26'	Evidence of Live-Aboards	DSS Staff
4828	102	T9	9/12/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	37.934520	-75.377502	Main Street, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	Dock with 10 perpendicular slips and a bulkhead with approx 5 slips. 7 trash bins and a sewage pump out station and holding tank.	NA	Public	N	Robert N. Reed Downtown Waterfront Park, Town of Chincoteague.	Accomack	Marina	15	0	0	N	TC
4833	102	T10	9/12/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	37.939933	-75.369855	4391 Main Street, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	Approximately 25 transient slips. Has electricity and holding tank/pump out station.	Conv	Business	N	Island Motor Inn. Grey siding with white trim. Three story condominium complex.	Accomack	Marina	25	1	0	N	TC
4824	102	T5	5/25/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	37.935591	-75.374963	4161 Main Street, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	Dock with 6 slips. Portable restroom available.	Privy	Business	N	Dock with 6 slips. No electricity or pump out. Portable restroom available.	Accomack	Under Surveillance	6	4	1	N	TC
4826	102	T7	5/25/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	37.935487	-75.375442	4147 Main Street, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	Approx 6 slips. Boat services provided- water and electricity. Large commercial ocean vessels tied up here frequently.	Conv	Business	Y	Chincoteague Fisheries. Office with several trailer body coolers. Dock area with approx. 6 slips.	Accomack	Under Surveillance	6	0	0	NA	TC
4827	102	T8	5/25/2022	BOATING ACTIVITY	37.935043	-75.376267	4147 Main Street, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	Restaurant's outdoor bar and seating area has dock and 7 slips.	Conv	Business	N	Don's Seafood. Outdoor bar/eating area with dock.	Accomack	Under Surveillance	7	1	0	N	TC

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SECTION E: CONTRIBUTES ANIMAL POLLUTION

	GA #	Field #	Inspection Date	Deficiency or Pollution Type	Latitude	Longitude	Address	Pollutant Remarks	Septic System Type	Structure Type	Contact	Overall Site Remarks	Locality	DSS Staff
4837	102	T13	5/25/2022	CONTRIBUTES ANIMAL POLLUTION, indirect	37.930870	-75.345047	5511 Woodland Drive, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	3 horses in fenced in pasture.	NA	Dwelling	Y	Small barn with with fenced in pasture across the street from owner.	Accomack	TC
2002	102	T14	5/26/2022	CONTRIBUTES ANIMAL POLLUTION, direct	37.917407	-75.339521	Assateague Island, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	Approximately 100 adult horses/ponies free-range grazing the island. Manure disposal is natural and direct into marsh and tidal waters.	NA		Y	Free roaming heard of horses.	Accomack	TC
4643	102	T17	5/25/2022	CONTRIBUTES ANIMAL POLLUTION, indirect	37.942660	-75.356225	, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	3 horses, 7 peacocks, 23 goats and waterfowl in pastures directly bordering wetlands.	NA	Agri	N	Farm animals in pastures in campground.	Accomack	RS
4642	102	T18	5/25/2022	CONTRIBUTES ANIMAL POLLUTION, indirect	37.960334	-75.329124	6176 Leonard Lane, Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	Approximately 13 horses roaming numerous properties with direct access to marsh and oyster bay.	NA	Dwelling	Y	Numerous houses and properties.	Accomack	RS

SUMMARY

Area # 102
Assateague Channel and Oyster Bay
26 September 2022

SECTION B: SEWAGE POLLUTION SOURCES

1. SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES

2 – DIRECT – # T11, T11.5
0 – INDIRECT – None.
2 – B.1. TOTAL

2. ON-SITE SEWAGE DEFICIENCIES – Correction of the deficiencies in this section is the responsibility of the local health department.

0 – CONTRIBUTES POLLUTION, DIRECT – None.
2 – CONTRIBUTES POLLUTION, INDIRECT – # T2, T12
0 – CP (Kitchen or Laundry Wastes), DIRECT – None.
0 – CP (Kitchen or Laundry Wastes), INDIRECT – None.
0 – NO FACILITIES, DIRECT – None.
0 – NO FACILITIES, INDIRECT – None.
2 – B.2. TOTAL

3. POTENTIAL POLLUTION – Periodic surveillance of these properties will be maintained to determine any status change.

0 – POTENTIAL POLLUTION – None.

SECTION C: NON-SEWAGE WASTE SITES

1. INDUSTRIAL WASTE SITES

2 – DIRECT – # T6, T15
0 – INDIRECT – None.
2 – C.1. TOTAL

2. SOLID WASTE DUMPSITES

0 – DIRECT – None.
1 – INDIRECT – # T1
1 – C.2. TOTAL

3. STORMWATER OUTFALLS

0 – DIRECT – None.
0 – INDIRECT – None.
0 – E. TOTAL

SECTION D: BOATING ACTIVITY

2 – MARINAS – # T9, T10
3 – UNDER SURVEILLANCE – T5, T7, T8
5 – D. TOTAL

SECTION E: CONTRIBUTES ANIMAL POLLUTION

1 – DIRECT – # T14
3 – INDIRECT – # T13, T17, T18
4 – E. TOTAL

Virginia Department of Health
Division of Shellfish Sanitation

Assateague Channel and Oyster Bay # 102 Shoreline Sanitary Survey

Accomack County

Date: 26 September 2022
Survey By: R. Snead, T. Charnock & I. Geeson
Total Number of Properties Surveyed & Near-shore Samples Collected: 266

N

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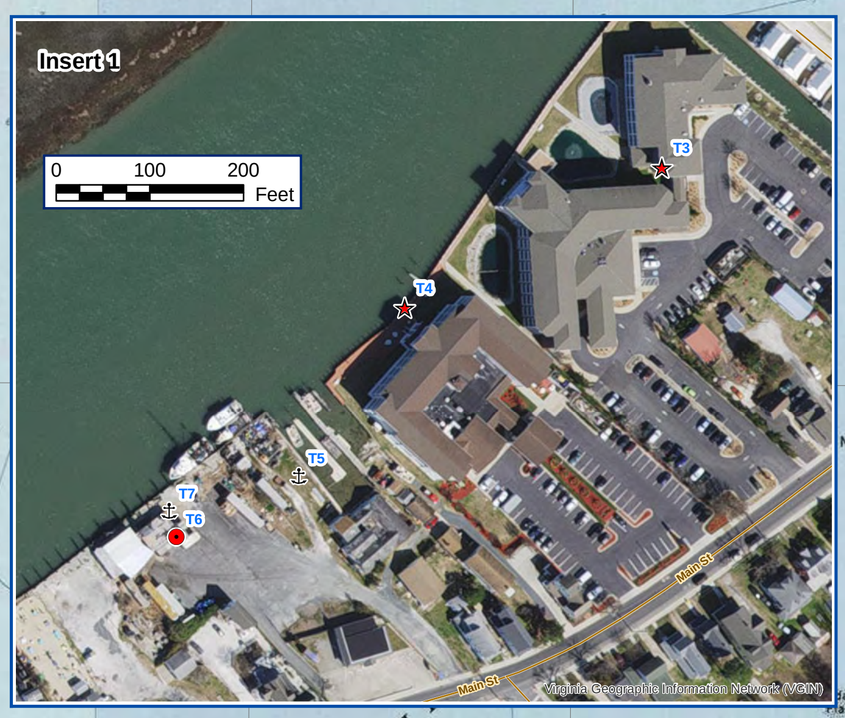
Insert 1



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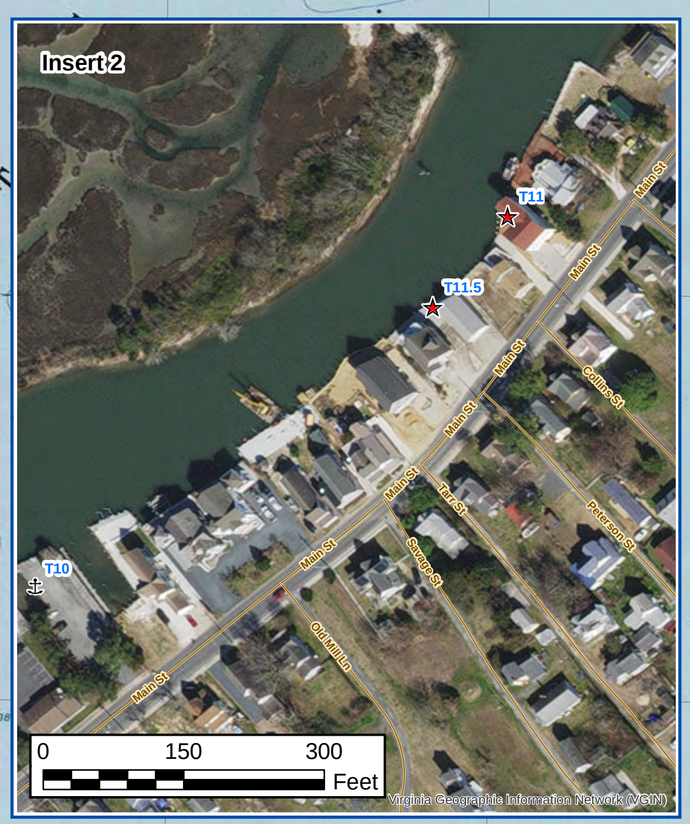

Legend

Seawater Sampling Stations
- Active
- Inactive

Sewered Areas

Boat Ramps (DGIF)

Shoreline Survey Deficiencies
- Sewage Treatment Facility - Direct
- Sewage Treatment Facility - Indirect
- Contributes Pollution - Direct
- Contributes Pollution - Indirect
- Contributes Pollution (Kitchen or Laundry wastes) - Direct
- Contributes Pollution (Kitchen or Laundry wastes) - Indirect
- No Facilities - Direct
- No Facilities - Indirect
- Potential Pollution
- Industrial Wastes, Direct
- Industrial Wastes, Indirect
- Solid Waste Dumpsite - Direct
- Solid Waste Dumpsite - Indirect
- Stormwater, Direct
- Stormwater, Indirect
- Boating Activity
- Contributes Animal Pollution - Direct
- Contributes Animal Pollution - Indirect

Geographic coordinates in NAD83 datum; shown in degrees, minutes & seconds.

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GA # 102 - Assateague Channel and Oyster Bay Enterococci Sampling

- Highest Sample: 1314 at A18 on 6/13/22.