

# SURFRIDER FOUNDATION

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## NEW HAMPSHIRE

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### CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IN OCEAN PROTECTION

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# CLEAN COASTAL WATERS - NOT JUST A DREAM IN NH

It is a reality...  
that takes work!

# THE TESTING

- **Enterococci**
  - **Indicator of Fecal Bacteria Contamination**
  - **Does that mean Poop? Well, Yes it does!**
- **Sources**
  - **Human and Wildlife**
- **Reasons**
  - **Population increase in and migration to coastal areas**
  - **Aging infrastructure and sewer systems**
  - **Wildlife population patterns**

# THE TIMELINE

NH Chapter  
Samples / Tests  
Fall  
September -  
December

NH Chapter  
Samples / Tests  
Winter / Spring  
January - End of  
May

Sample Collection  
Time Line

NH DES Samples /  
Tests  
Summer  
End of May -  
September

# THE PROGRAM

- **The Mission**
  - **The Blue Water Task Force provides critical water quality information to protect public health at the beach. Surfrider chapters use this volunteer water testing program to raise awareness of local pollution problems and to bring together communities to implement solutions**
- **Volunteer Run**
  - **Collect samples and deliver to lab (UNH)**
- **Ops / Management**
  - **Recruit Volunteers**
  - **Train Volunteers**
  - **Schedule Volunteers**

# THE FUNDING AND COSTS

- **Funding**
  - Fundraising and donations
- **Program Costs**
  - Fees based on per sample /test charge
  - ~\$30 / test

# PARTNERS

- **Loaded Question Brewing**
- **Rye Beach Committee**
- **NOBL Beverages**

- 5 Beaches / Test Sites (2023 - 2024)

Town	Beach	Sample / Site
Hampton	The Wall 15th Street	1
Hampton	Plaice Cove	1
North Hampton	North Hampton State Beach	1
Rye	Sawyers Beach	1
Rye	Jenness State Beach	1



# HOW MANY?

- Testing every other week (2023 - 2024)

Season	Testing Days	Samples (days x 5) *
Winter /Spring 2023	11	55
Fall 2023	8	40
Winter / Spring 2024**	11	55
Fall 2024 (TBD)	8	40
	38	190

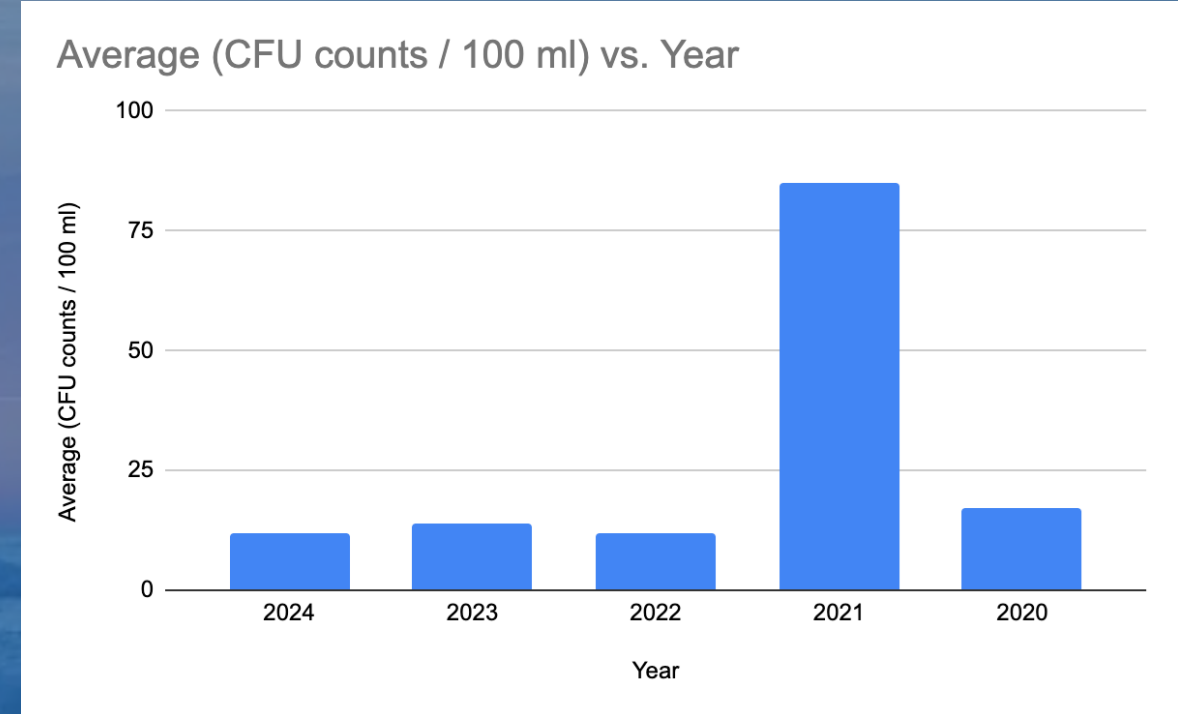
\* Based on the 5 previously mentioned beaches

\*\* Planned

# RESULTS

- Averages

Year	Average (CFU counts / 100 ml)
2024	12
2023	14
2022	12.01
2021	85
2020	17



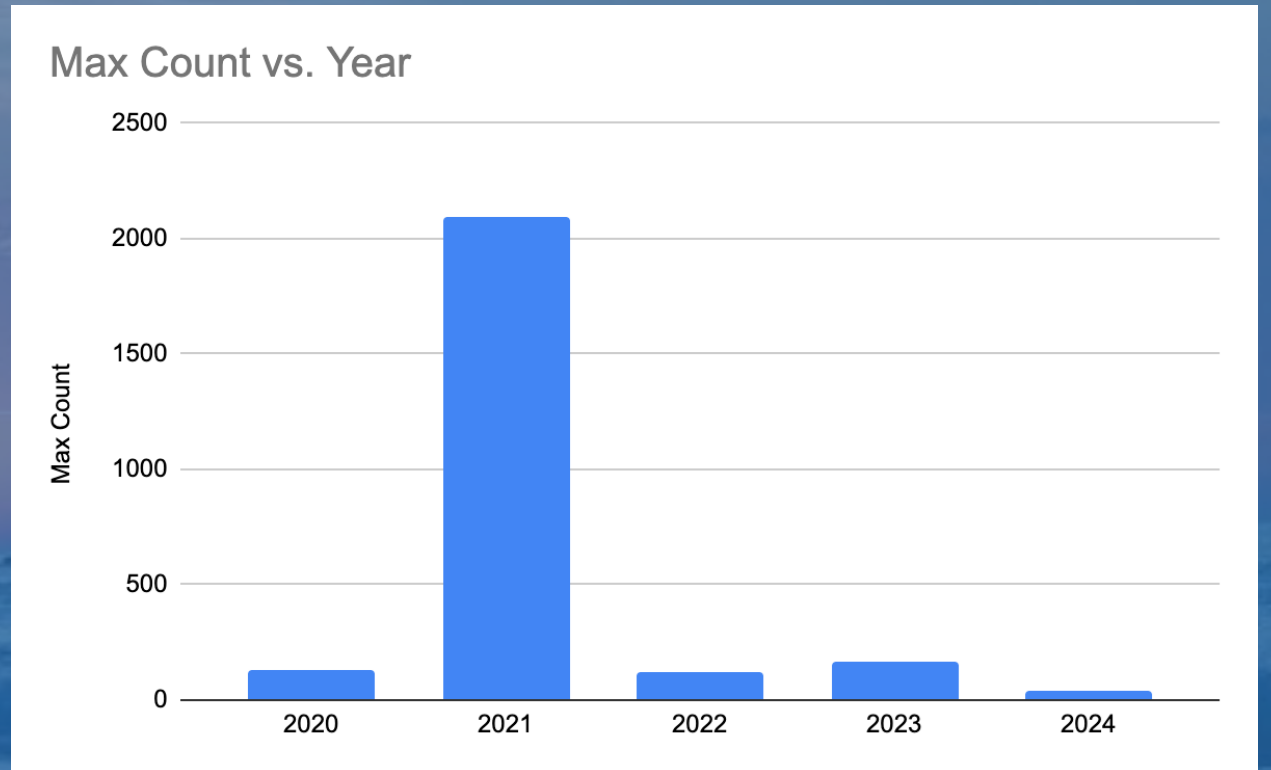
CFU = colony forming units

2024 is Year to Date (Mar. 4, 2024)  
2021 Very large incidents at Pirates Cove  
and North Hampton State Beach

- High Counts For The Year

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Max Count	134	2098	117	163	40

Counts 104 or higher result in an advisory  
2024 is YTD



- Instances Exceeding Threshold Level

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Instances >104	1	16	1	2	0

Counts 104 or higher result in an advisory  
This is not a count of advisory days

# THANK YOUS

**All the volunteers**

**UNH Jackson Estuarine Lab and Steve Jones PhD**

**Rye Beach Committee**

**Loaded Question Brewery (Pete Mead & Tom Bath)**

# THANK YOU

