



LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**STREAM/SWIM ADVISORY – LAWRENCE COUNTY**

The Lawrence County Health Department has received a sub-grant through the Environmental Resources Coalition for the Springfield-Branson Regional Onsite Wastewater Project. To fulfill the requirements within the sub-grant, the Lawrence County Health Department is monitoring several locations of Spring River and creeks and tributaries that run into Spring River within the county. Results indicate some areas have higher E. Coli counts than EPA recommended limits.

E. Coli is a fecal coliform bacteria that lives in all human and animal intestines.

At present there are no federal or state standards for E. Coli densities in recreational waters. EPA's proposed standards for bacteria densities should not exceed 235 E. Coli per 100 milliliters of fresh water for full body contact.

The sources of water contamination are difficult to track to the point of source.

**THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS NO SWIMMING IN STREAM AREAS THAT EXCEED EPA GUIDELINES.**

Samples taken at the locations listed showed the following counts on the date listed:

<u>Stream</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>E. Coli Counts per 100 ml</u>
1) Spring River	Youngberg Park in Verona	07/16/11	25.6**
2) Spring River	FR 2210 north of Verona	07/16/11	83.6*
3) Spring River	FR 2193 north of Verona	07/16/11	658.6*
4) Spring River	Verona Beach	07/16/11	142.1**
5) Spring River	FR 2175 north of Verona	07/16/11	206.4*
6) Honey Creek	FR 1137/1135 South of Mt. Vernon	07/16/11	1046.2*

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<u>Stream</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>E. Coli Counts per 100 ml</u>
7) Spring River	FR 2137 Hoberg	07/16/11	328.2*
8) Spring River	FR 2130 west of Mt. Vernon	07/16/11	65.7**
9) Big Spring	Baptist Hill Church Camp	07/16/11	549.3*
10) Spring River	FR 2110 west of Baptist Hill	07/16/11	17.5**
11) Spring River	FR 1082 near Talbot	07/16/11	71.4**
12) Spring River	Hwy 97 bridge	07/16/11	75.4*
13) Marti/Dry Hollow	FR 2100 north of Stotts City	07/16/11	218.7*
14) Spring River	Hwy U, LaRussell Access (Jasper County)	07/16/11	38.3**

Counts that are highlighted red indicate that they exceed 235 E. Coli per 100 ml.

\* = Increase since last report date, July 2, 2011

\*\* = Decrease since last report date, July 2, 2011

\*\*\* = Didn't change since last report date, July 2, 2011

**Weather Conditions:** sunny, 95°

**Stream Conditions (level):** low

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