



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

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PRESS RELEASE

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality's Division of Environmental Quality reminds the public **not to tamper with or remove the beach water quality signages** posted at designated shorelines throughout Saipan, Tinian and Rota. These signages display "red flag" and "green flag" indicators, written in commonly used languages such as English, Korean, Japanese, and Chinese, to help inform the public of current marine water quality conditions.

- **Green Flag:** Indicates that water quality meets CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards and that the recreational site is considered **safe to fish and swim**.
- **Red Flag:** Indicates that recent water samples contained excessive levels of fecal indicator bacteria. The public is advised **not to swim, fish, or recreate within 300 feet** of the posted location for at least 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

These signages are part of BECQ's ongoing Marine Water Quality Monitoring Program, which helps protect public health and promote safe recreation at our island beaches. **Tampering with or removing these signs interferes with public health communication and may result in penalties under CNMI law.**

BECQ appreciates the community's cooperation in protecting our beaches and ensuring everyone's safety.

For weekly updates and more information on beach advisories, please visit www.deq.gov.mp/beach-advisories.html or contact the BECQ office at (670) 664-8500/01.