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[Home](#) [Newsroom](#) [Media](#) [Administration](#) [NJ's Priorities](#) [Contact Us](#)

[Press Releases](#) [Public Addresses](#) [Executive Orders](#) [Press Kit](#) [Reports](#)

[Home](#) > [Newsroom](#) > [Press Releases](#) > [2012](#) > [Christie Administration Expands Recreational Fishing and Boating Advisory to Northern Barnegat Bay](#)

Christie Administration Expands Recreational Fishing and Boating Advisory to Northern Barnegat Bay

Monday, November 5, 2012 Tags: [Hurricane Sandy](#)

Trenton, NJ – As a public health and safety precaution, the Department of Environmental Protection is advising recreational boaters, anglers and crabbers to temporarily avoid the waters of northern Barnegat Bay, from Barnegat Light to Point Pleasant, and is advising residents not to eat any fish, crustaceans or shellfish from these waters due to potential contamination from pathogens – bacteria and viruses.

Water sampling in this area is showing elevated levels of contaminants likely due to damage caused by Hurricane Sandy which knocked several waste water treatment facilities in the state off-line, resulting in the temporary runoff of effluents into certain waterways.

The affected area runs from Barnegat Light to the Metedeconk River, and includes tributaries entering the Bay, including the Toms River, Metedeconk River and smaller streams that enter the Bay. If you are boating or fishing in these waters, you are advised to thoroughly wash, clean and disinfect any gear immediately.

The area south of Barnegat Light is not under advisory. But the DEP continues to conduct tests of waters along the state's entire Atlantic coastline.

A similar fishing and boating advisory that was announced Friday remains in effect for the New Jersey portion of the Hudson River, Passaic River, Hackensack River, Newark Bay, Kill Van Kull and Arthur Kill, Raritan Bay, Raritan River, and Sandy Hook Bay.

We encourage all anglers, crabbers and boaters to visit the Hurricane Sandy webpage at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/special/hurricane-sandy/> for updates on this advisory. In addition, please visit <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/dsr/njmainfish.htm> for current fish consumption advisories."

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