

**UPDATE**  
**E. coli notice for residents of Palmer Lake**  
**August 23, 2021**

Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, E. coli water samples were collected from multiple locations in the channel connecting Palmer Lake and Long Lake as well as a sample from Little Swan Creek at Decker Bridge. Decker Bridge is located approximately .5 miles East of Long Lake Bridge.

\*A map of Palmer Lake and channel with locations of all E. coli sampling sites has been attached to this notice.

Results are as follows:

North Channel Palmer Lake	104 CFU/100mL Water meets bacteriological standards for safe swimming
Mid Channel Palmer Lake	184 CFU/100mL Safety of the water for swimming questionable
South Channel West of Swan Creek Inlet	320 CFU/100mL Water UNSAFE for swimming
Decker Bridge	252 CFU/100 mL Safety of the water for swimming questionable

The Lake Board has contacted the Branch, Hillsdale, St. Joseph County Health Department for further direction.

All three channel areas and Little Swan Creek at Decker Bridge will be retested on Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. Results should be available to the Lake board the following day or at the latest Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. Residents will be notified on the lake board website. [www.colontownshiplakeboard.com](http://www.colontownshiplakeboard.com)

Attachments:

Prein & Newhof Analytical Report 8/20/2021

PLM map of testing sites from 8/3/21, 8/13/21 and 8/19/21

*Water Quality Measurements: "Fecal Indicator Bacteria (E. coli) measurements count the number of live fecal indicator bacteria in the sample. These are considered reliable indicators of fecal contamination-when they are found in a pond or lake, it is very likely that the water is being contaminated by animal feces. Contamination can potentially be derived from a number of sources, including failed septic systems, agricultural runoff, or waterfowl or wildlife droppings."*