

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 10, 2016**



**\*\*\*HEALTH ADVISORY FOR BACTERIA LEVELS\*\*\***  
**\*\*\* *North Fork of the St. Lucie River* \*\*\***

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**(St. Lucie, County)** - The Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie urges residents to avoid contact with the North Fork of the St. Lucie River from River Park Marina at Prima Vista Boulevard south to Martin County line. Testing revealed higher than normal levels of enteric bacteria. The three locations sampled were River Park Marina, Veterans Park, and Sandpiper Bay Canoe Launch. The advisory will remain in effect until results show consistent readings in the good range.

Enteric bacteria inhabit the intestinal tract of humans and animals and their presence in recreational waters is an indication of fecal pollution. The bacteria may come from storm water runoff, pets, wildlife and human sewage. Symptoms of exposure for those who ingest or come in contact with the water may include upset stomach, diarrhea, eye irritation and skin rashes. For more information, please contact St. Lucie's Environmental Health Division at 772-873-4931 or visit us online at [www.StLucieCountyHealth.com](http://www.StLucieCountyHealth.com).

**About the Florida Department of Health**

The department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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