

Grading of beach water quality released

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (September 30) released the latest grading of water quality for 38 gazetted beaches (see Note 1) and one non-gazetted beach (i.e. Discovery Bay, see Note 2).

Thirteen beaches were rated as Good (Grade 1), 20 as Fair (Grade 2), five as Poor (Grade 3) and one as Very Poor (Grade 4).

Grade 1 beaches are:

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Grade 2 beaches are:

Butterfly Beach	Hoi Mei Wan Beach
Cafeteria New Beach	Kadoorie Beach
Cafeteria Old Beach	Kiu Tsui Beach
Casam Beach	Lido Beach
Castle Peak Beach	Lower Cheung Sha Beach
Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach	Middle Bay Beach
Clear Water Bay First Beach	Pui O Beach
Clear Water Bay Second Beach	Silver Mine Bay Beach
Deep Water Bay Beach	Stanley Main Beach
Golden Beach	Trio Beach

Grade 3 beaches are:

Anglers' Beach
Approach Beach
Big Wave Bay Beach

Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach
Ting Kau Beach

Grade 4 beach is:

Silverstrand Beach

"Compared with the grading released last week, Silverstrand Beach has been changed from Grade 2 to Grade 4. The deterioration of water quality at Silverstrand Beach was largely due to the recent unsteady weather and frequent heavy rain," an EPD spokesman said.

Under the present grading system, beaches are classified into four grades, namely Good (Grade 1), Fair (Grade 2), Poor (Grade 3) and Very Poor (Grade 4), according to the level of E. coli in the water. Grades are calculated on the basis of the geometric mean of the E. coli counts on the five most recent sampling occasions.

A summary of beach grades is published weekly before the weekend. The latest beach grades based on the most current data may be obtained from the EPD's website on Beach Water Quality (www.epd.gov.hk/epd/beach) or the beach hotline, 2511 6666.

Note 1: In view of the latest situation of COVID-19, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced on July 13 that all beaches would be temporarily closed from July 15 until further notice.

Note 2: Discovery Bay is a non-gazetted beach without lifeguard service.