

S
t
r
i
c
t
u
r
e
s
a
r
e
c
o
n
s
i
d
e
r
e
d
a
s
a
c
c
o
u
n
t
i
n
g
t
h
e
c
o
n
t
r
i
b
u
t
i
o
n
s
o
f
t
h
e
i
n
d
i
v
i
d
u
a
l
m
e
m
b
e
r
s
o
f
t
h
e
g
r
o
u
p
.

Compared with the grading released last week, Kwun Yam Beach, St Stephen's Beach and Turtle Cove Beach have been upgraded from Grade 2 to Grade 1; Anglers' Beach, Approach Beach, Kadoorie Beach and Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach from Grade 3 to Grade 2.

Under the present grading system, beaches are classified into four grades 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.

While the ratings represent the general water quality at the beaches, the EPD spokesman reminded members of the public that water quality could be temporarily affected during and after periods of heavy rain. Bathers should avoid swimming at beaches for up to three days after a storm or heavy rainfall.

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 department's website on Beach Water Quality (www.epd.gov.hk/epd/beach) or the beach hotline, 2511 6666.