

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, July 28, 2004 1:00 pm

Contact/Phone: SteveTodd, Environmental Health Director 269-501-2503

### **Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency**

**Quincy Park Beach on First Lake re-opened for swimming as of 1:00 pm today. Water sample results fall within acceptable limits.**

The Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency announced today that the Quincy Park Beach on First Lake in Branch County can now re-open for swimmers as of 1:00 pm today, July 28, 2004. The beach has been closed since July 22, 2004 due to a failure of a sewage pumping station. Water samples taken July 26, 2004, by the Community Health Agency Environmental Health staff show that the water now has an acceptable *E. coli* bacteria level for swimming. The threshold for *E. coli* in a public swimming area is a count of 300 per 100ml of water. The tested level from the July 26<sup>th</sup> sample was 48. Environmental Health staff will continue to monitor the beach throughout the summer as part of the statewide public beach monitoring program.

You can find information about the statewide monitoring program, beach closings, monitoring efforts and *E. coli* test results at the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality web site.

[www.deq.state.mi.us/beach/public/default.asp](http://www.deq.state.mi.us/beach/public/default.asp)

For additional local information about this program in the tri-county area, please visit our web site at

[www.bhsj.org/eh/eh\\_beach.htm](http://www.bhsj.org/eh/eh_beach.htm)