

## Media Release

# Environment Protection Authority



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27 September 2017

## Beachgoers urged to register for Beach Alerts

The EPA is urging beachgoers in metropolitan Adelaide to register for Beach Alerts ahead of the summer months.

EPA Chief Executive Tony Circelli said Adelaide's beaches are considered safe and healthy for the majority of the time, however discolouration of these waters may occur after heavy rain activity.

"The majority of all metropolitan stormwater flows to the sea through the stormwater system, as well as river and drainage channels, making some metropolitan beaches unsuitable for swimming for several days," Mr Circelli said.

"It is advised that swimming at beaches during these times should be avoided as discoloured water can reduce visibility and cause mild illness," he said.

The EPA sources real-time stormwater flow data from Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges to inform beachgoers when stormwater is being discharged into the marine waters near the metropolitan beaches, or when there has been a managed flow.

"Most of the stormwater is continuously monitored near beach outflows that measures both water flow and turbidity.

"When either of the measurements exceed certain levels, the EPA is notified as there is a possibility that beach water quality could be impacted," he said.

Beachgoers are also encouraged to look for signs at the beach to help identify areas where the water may be discoloured.

"These signs will generally be located near the local surf life-saving club and will help to identify areas where there may be polluted water after rain activity," Mr Circelli said.

Beach Alerts will coincide with the beginning of Daylight Savings – from 1 October 2017.

Beaches that are monitored along Adelaide's metropolitan coastline span from Semaphore in the north to Noarlunga in the south.

For more information, or to subscribe to the Beach Alert service visit [EPA website](#). To receive advice via your phone subscribe to [Alert SA](#).

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