


## Bacteria Monitoring and #RecreateResponsibly

You may have noticed the "Stay Dry, Stay Safe" signs promoting [#RecreateResponsibly](#) around the park. But how do we know it's not safe in the water for you and your pets?

The Conservancy partners with Anacostia Riverkeeper and the Department of Energy and the Environment in DC and with Potomac Riverkeeper and the Department of Environmental Protection in Montgomery County to conduct water quality monitoring throughout the Rock Creek watershed. This is our third year monitoring Rock Creek in DC, and our first year monitoring in Montgomery County, and the data we collect helps to inform our approaches to our restoration and preservation work!




**STAY DRY, STAY SAFE**


Stay safe while enjoying Rock Creek Park! Swimming and wading are not allowed due to high bacteria levels.

Stay out of the water to protect streambanks, plants, and animals, and keep you and your family (including pets!) safe from illness.

To get involved:  
[bit.ly/RCC-RecreateResponsibly](http://bit.ly/RCC-RecreateResponsibly)

 **ROCK CREEK**  
CONSERVANCY

Rock Creek Conservancy (501(c)(3)) is an official partner of the National Park Service.  
[info@rockcreekconservancy.org](mailto:info@rockcreekconservancy.org) @LoveRockCreek

 [www.nps.gov/rocr](http://www.nps.gov/rocr)  
#RecreateResponsibly

So far this year, we have found that Rock Creek continues to exhibit unsafe levels of bacteria throughout the DC portion of the Creek, and in Montgomery County as well. DC results can be viewed in the [Anacostia Riverkeeper results portal](#), and Montgomery County results can be viewed on [Swim Guide](#). The bacteria concentrations shown makes swimming, wading, and other contact with the water a hazard to human and animal health. That means visitors should stay out of the water, and should keep their pets out of the water as well!

Learn more about the Conservancy's bacteria monitoring efforts, including how to get involved on future projects, [here](#).