

COASTAL HAZARD MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TAMPA BAY RUSKIN FL
313 AM EDT TUE APR 17 2012

...BEACH HAZARDS STATEMENT IN EFFECT FOR PORTIONS OF THE WEST CENTRAL
FLORIDA COAST...

.A PATCHY HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM KNOWN AS RED TIDE IS PRESENT ALONG THE
COAST FROM NEAR SARASOTA COUNTY TO HERNANDO COUNTY. THE RED TIDE IS
EXPECTED TO PERSIST THROUGH THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS WITH ONSHORE WINDS
PROVIDING NOTABLE IMPACTS TO AREA BEACHES.

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HERNANDO-PASCO-PINELLAS-HILLSBOROUGH-MANATEE-SARASOTA
313 AM EDT TUE APR 17 2012

...BEACH HAZARDS STATEMENT IN EFFECT FOR PATCHY MODERATE TO HIGH
IMPACTS DUE TO RED TIDE AT AREA BEACHES THE NEXT FEW DAYS...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN TAMPA BAY HAS ISSUED A BEACH
HAZARDS STATEMENT FOR RED TIDE...WHICH IS IN EFFECT FROM 5 AM EDT
TUESDAY THROUGH TUESDAY EVENING.

* HAZARD...RED TIDE

* TIMING...A PATCHY RED TIDE IS EXPECTED TO PERSIST THE NEXT SEVERAL
DAYS ALONG PORTIONS OF THE WEST-CENTRAL FLORIDA COAST.

* LOCATION...SARASOTA AND HERNANDO COUNTY BEACHES

* IMPACTS...PATCHY MODERATE TO HIGH IMPACTS ARE EXPECTED ALONG THE
COASTS OF MANATEE...PINELLAS...AND HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY THROUGH
THURSDAY. PATCHY LOW TO MODERATE IMPACTS ARE EXPECTED IN COASTAL AREAS
OF PASCO AND SARASOTA COUNTIES THROUGH THURSDAY.

* SOURCE...NOAA'S NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE (CONTACT INFORMATION IF
AVAILABLE)

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...

GIVEN HIGH ENOUGH CONCENTRATIONS...RED TIDE CAN PRODUCE RESPIRATORY
SYMPTOMS IN HUMANS AND OTHER MAMMALS DUE TO A TOXIN THEY RELEASE INTO
THE AIR. SYMPTOMS CAN INCLUDE DIFFICULTY IN BREATHING AND A BURNING
SENSATION OF THE THROAT...NOSE AND EYES. ENTERING THE WATER WILL ONLY
WORSEN THE SYMPTOMS IF RED TIDE EXISTS. INGESTING WATER WITH HIGH
CONCENTRATIONS OF RED TIDE CAN CAUSE SERIOUS ILLNESS.

RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS CAN QUICKLY BECOME SEVERE IN ASTHMATICS. RED
TIDE TOXINS CAN TRIGGER ASTHMA ATTACKS WITH SYMPTOMS THAT LAST FOR
DAYS AFTER EXPOSURE. RESIDENTS WHO SUFFER FROM ASTHMA SHOULD CONSIDER
VISITING BEACHES OUTSIDE THE AREA IMPACTED BY THIS RED TIDE.

RED TIDE IS A HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM THAT POISONS SHELLFISH REQUIRING FISHING CLOSURES AND CAN CAUSE SIGNIFICANT FISH KILLS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON RED TIDE, PLEASE VISIT THE FOLLOWING WEB SITES...

[HTTP://OCEANSERVICE.NOAA.GOV/HAZARDS/HAB/](http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/ Hazards/HAB/)

[HTTP://TIDESANDCURRENTS.NOAA.GOV/HAB/](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/HAB/)

[HTTP://MYFWC.COM/RESEARCH/REDTIDE/EVENTS/STATUS/STATEWIDE/](http://myfwc.com/research/redtide/events/status/statewide/)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LOCAL BEACH CONDITIONS, PLEASE VISIT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE...

[HTTP://COOLGATE.MOTE.ORG/BEACHCONDITIONS/](http://coolgate.mote.org/beachconditions/)

BEACH HAZARDS STATEMENTS ARE ISSUED WHEN HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS RELATED TO WEATHER, WAVE AND CURRENTS, ENVIRONMENT, OR UNUSUAL EVENTS ARE EXPECTED TO AFFECT BEACH/COASTAL/SHORELINE AREAS AND ADJACENT NEARSHORE WATERS.

PLEASE VISIT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE NEW BEACH HAZARDS STATEMENT...

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/SURVEY/NWS-SURVEY.PHP?CODE=CHMBHS](http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=chmbhs)