

# Michigan DNR Parks and Recreation Division

## Designated Beach Policy



Mike Evanoff  
Statewide Safety Officer

# Designated Beach Policy

- Was last revised in June 2004
- Includes Great Lakes and inland beaches
- Policy revisions reflect advances in science
- A designated beach must have swim buoys



# Major Revisions

- Updated description of dangerous nearshore currents
- Emergency equipment shall be inspected daily and documented on a specific form
- Flag staffs mounted on the beach shall have a minimum height of 15 feet
- Flags will now be rectangular in shape and will be larger in size
- The color of the flags will be embroidered on the flag
- Updated criteria for determining the color of flag to fly









# Dangerous Currents

NWS Database

Victims

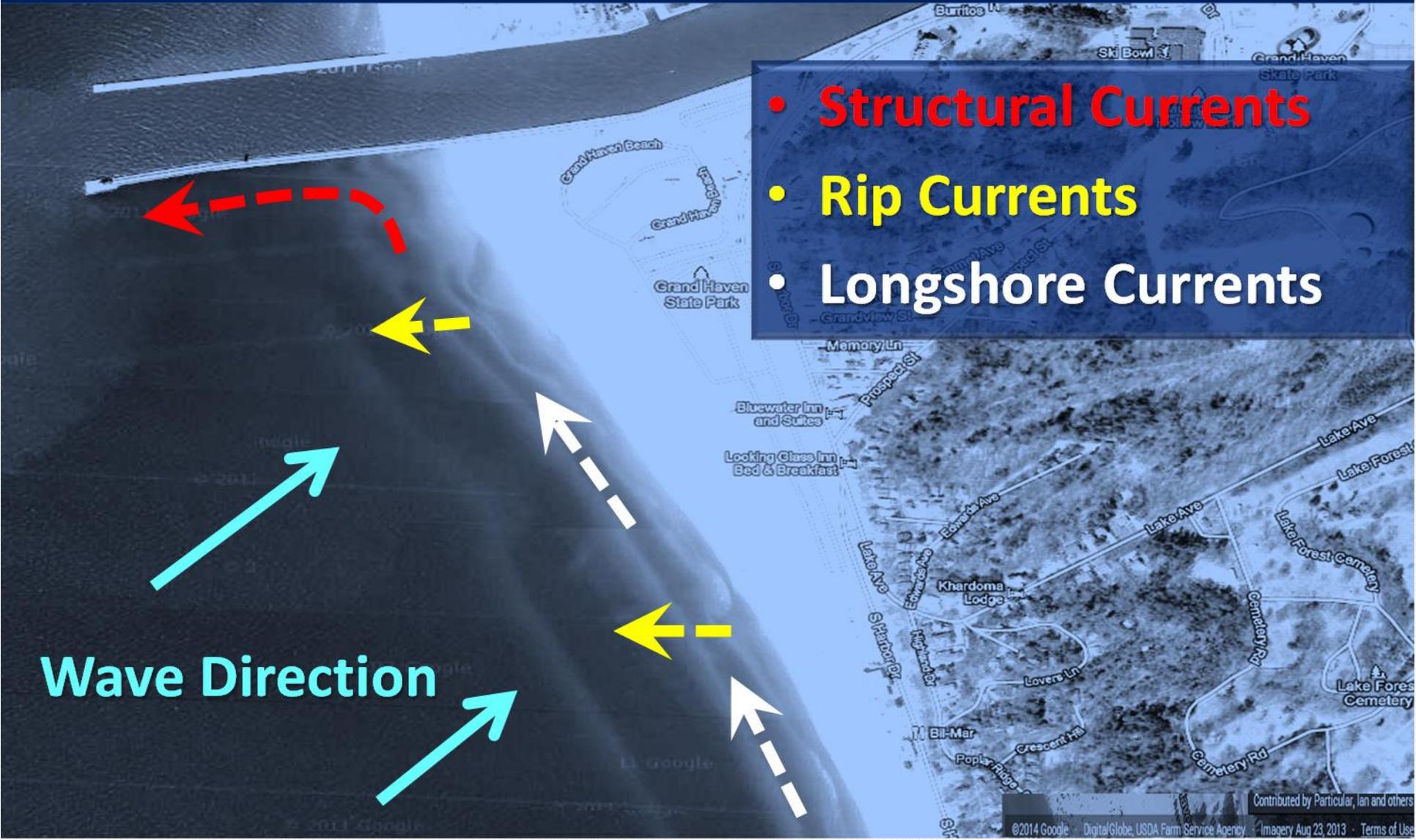
Conditions

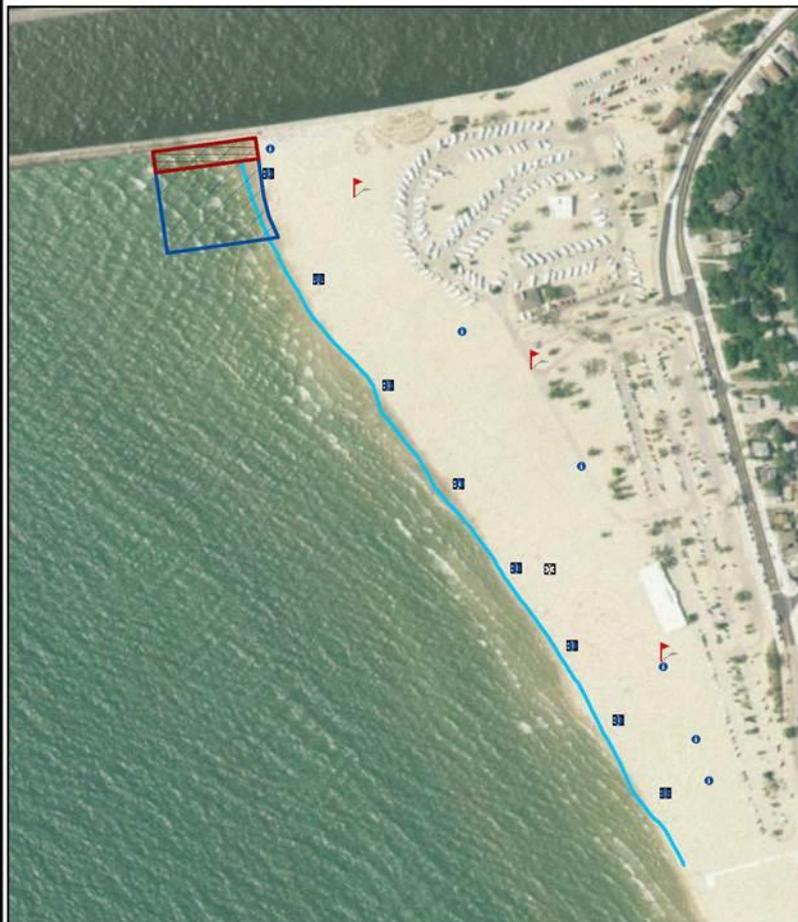
**Current Types**

Conclusions

- **Structural Currents**
- **Rip Currents**
- **Longshore Currents**

**Wave Direction**





0 100 200 400 600 Feet

### Legend

- Swim Exclusion Areas**
- 60 feet (2013)
  - 300 feet (Prospective)
  - Beach Flag
  - Beach Safety Sign
  - Designated Swim Beach Shoreline
  - Rescue Equipment

Background Image: 2012 True Color NAIP





# FLAG SIGNAL SYSTEM

RED FLAG ► NO SWIMMING   
HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS

YELLOW FLAG ► CAUTION  
DANGEROUS CONDITIONS

GREEN FLAG ► GOOD CONDITIONS

## RIP CURRENTS

Break the Grip of the Rip



### IF YOU GET IN A RIP CURRENT:

- Don't panic. Stay calm.
- Float and let the current take you out.
- If you can't breathe, hold your nose.
- If you need help, call or wave for assistance.

### WHAT TO DO:

- Don't fight the waves.
- Relax and breathe.
- If you can't breathe, call or wave for assistance.







06/30/2012







**FLAG SIGNAL SYSTEM**  
RED FLAG → NO SWIMMING, NO SURFBOARDS, NO BODYBOARDS, NO TUBES  
YELLOW FLAG → CAUTION, SHALLOW WATER, BREAKING WAVES  
GREEN FLAG → BEST CONDITIONS

  
**NO BEACH GUARD**

EROC



FLAG SIGNAL SYSTEM  
1275 W. WASHINGTON ST.  
MONTICELLO, TN 37133

LIFE SAVING EQUIPMENT  
FOR  
EMERGENCY USE ONLY













# Live Doppler Plus Radar





# National Weather Service Updates

June 5, 2015 – Michigan Emergency Managers Monthly Call

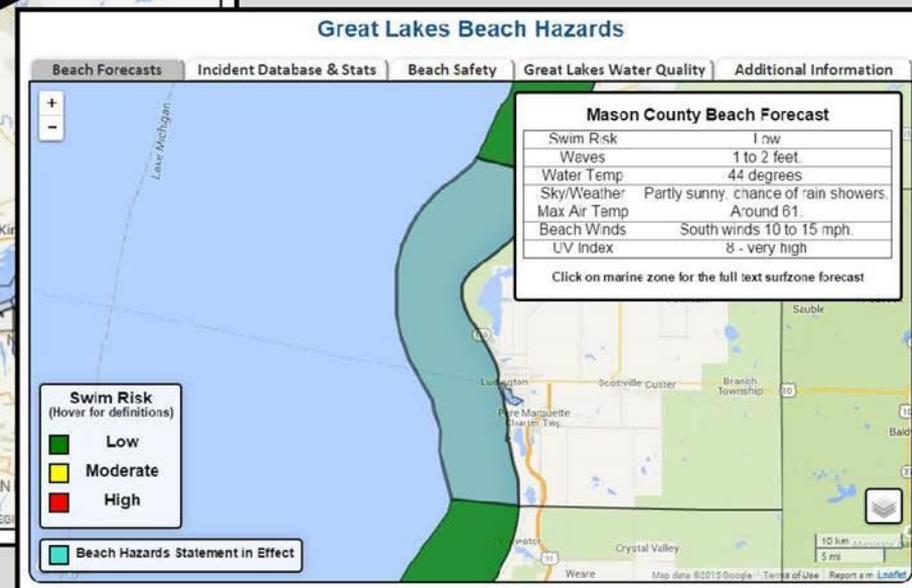
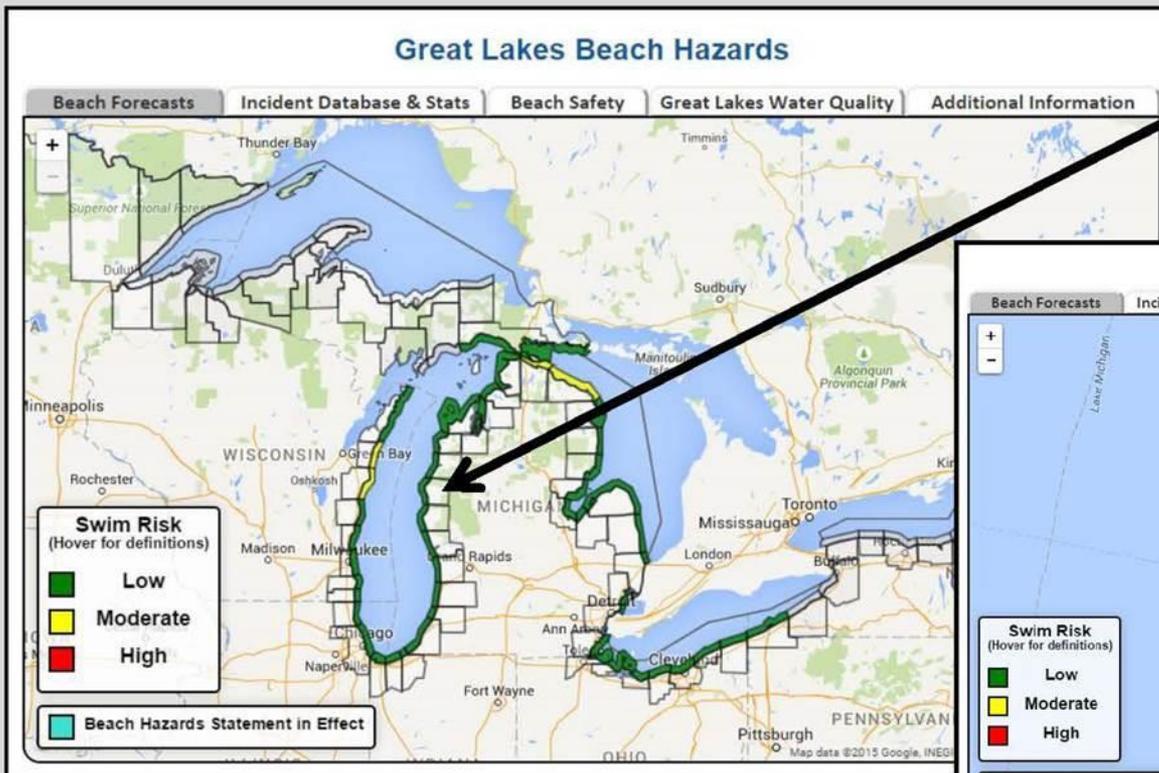


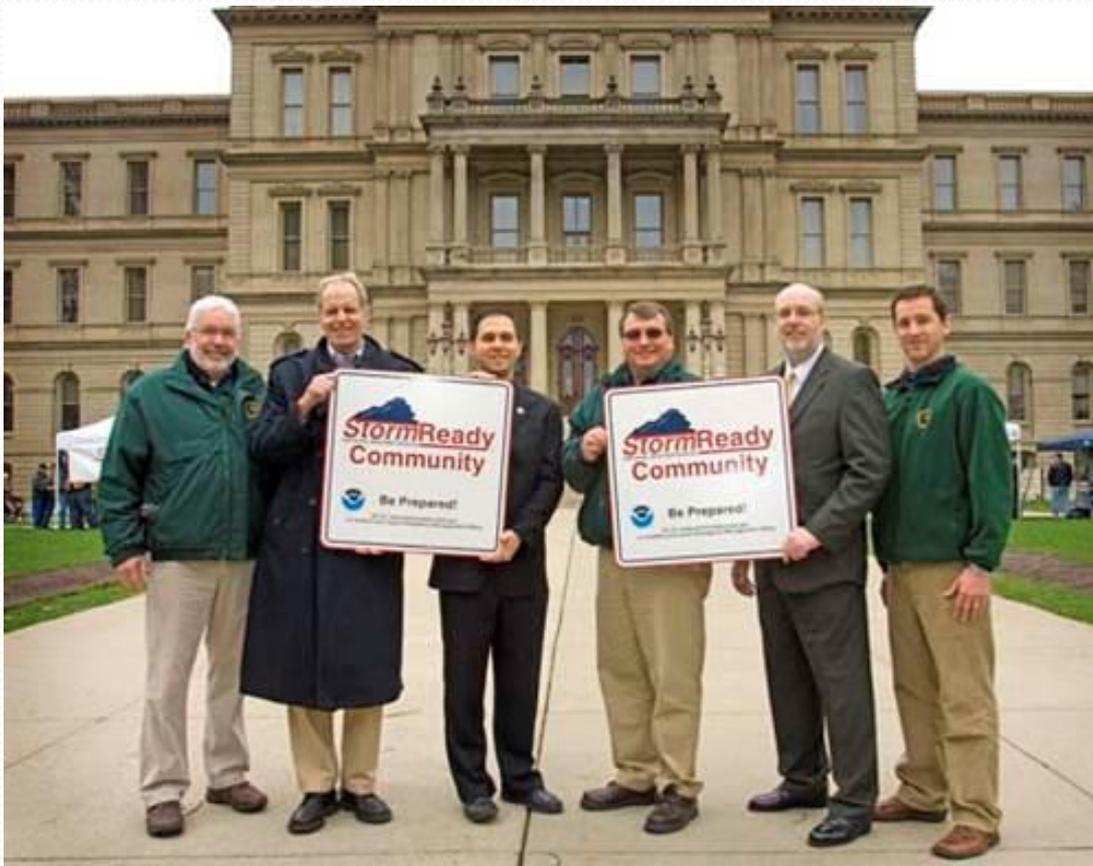
## New Beach Hazards Web Page

[www.weather.gov/greatlakes/beachhazards](http://www.weather.gov/greatlakes/beachhazards)

Click on Map for

- ✓ Forecasts
- ✓ Swim Risk
- ✓ Warnings





A photograph of a wooden structure, possibly a lifeguard stand or a utility box, with a sign attached to its front. The structure has a gabled roof and is situated on a beach with the ocean in the background under a clear blue sky. The sign is white with red and white diagonal stripes around the edges. The text on the sign is in black, bold, sans-serif font. The word "NOTICE" is the largest and most prominent. Below it, the text reads "THIS BEACH IS MONITORED BY THE CHIPPEWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT". At the bottom, it provides contact information: "For weekly water quality results, visit www.chippewahd.com or contact Environmental Health at (906) 635-3620." There is a small URL "www.chippewahd.com" at the bottom left of the sign.

# NOTICE

THIS BEACH IS  
MONITORED BY THE  
CHIPPEWA COUNTY  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

For weekly water quality results, visit  
[www.chippewahd.com](http://www.chippewahd.com) or contact Environmental  
Health at (906) 635-3620.

www.chippewahd.com



**THANK YOU!**