



## GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**COMMUNITY HEALTH**  
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**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT &  
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[www.gtchd.org](http://www.gtchd.org)

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** **June 10, 2020**

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## **PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY**

At approximately 7:45 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 2020, there was an accidental release of untreated sewage into the Boardman River from a sewer manhole near the intersection of North Union Street and Front Street in the City of Traverse City. The sewage spill was the result of the sanitary sewer system becoming overwhelmed during heavy rains and flash flooding. Therefore, the Grand Traverse County Health Department (GTCHD) has issued a no body contact advisory with surface waters in the following areas:

- The Boardman River from the pedestrian bridge near the Michigan Department of Natural Resources weir downstream to the mouth at West Grand Traverse Bay.
- Private beachfront property east of the Boardman River to Bryant Park.
- The following public beaches along West Grand Traverse Bay:
  - Clinch Park Beach
  - Sunset Park Beach
  - Bryant Park Beach
  - Traverse City Senior Center Beach

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) has been contacted and will be working with Grand Traverse County Health Department officials as well as officials with the City of Traverse City Department of Public Services to monitor the spill and make any necessary repairs to the sanitary sewer system.

This advisory will remain in effect until further notice. Once water testing results demonstrate that the affected waters meet EGLE standards for E.coli, the advisory will be lifted.

More information and updates will be forth coming.