

Virginia Department of Health Advisory

The following information was provided to EPA by Ms. Rebecca LePrel, VDH

Here is our recommendation regarding recreational use:

As a precautionary measure, VDH recommends no swimming, rafting, or kayaking on the James River from Lynchburg to Richmond, especially in areas where visible oil sheen is present. The advisory will be lifted when monitoring results indicate that the river is safe for swimming.

VDH has not issued any new fish consumption advisories as a result of the spill. Fish are not expected to be impacted. However, the long-standing fish advisory for this section of the river remains in effect due to PCB contamination. The existing advisory is no more than two fish meals per month for certain fish species. More information on fish advisories is available at:

www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/DEE/PublicHealthToxicology/Advisories/JamesRiver.htm