

A close-up photograph of a fishing rod and reel. The rod is held by a hand, and the reel is a modern, metallic spinning reel. The background is a soft, out-of-focus sunset or sunrise over water, with warm orange and yellow tones. The fishing rod is positioned diagonally across the frame, and the reel is in the foreground, partially obscuring the rod.

Bacteria Criteria for Fishing and Drinking Water

- Current EPA approved bacteria criteria for Fishing and Drinking Water:
 - Uses fecal coliform as bacterial indicator
 - May – October:
 - Not to exceed 30-day geometric mean of 200 counts per 100 mL
 - “Should water quality and sanitary studies show fecal coliform levels from non-human sources exceed 200/100 mL (geometric mean) occasionally, then the allowable geometric mean fecal coliform shall not exceed 300 per 100 mL in lakes and reservoirs and 500 per 100 mL in free flowing freshwater streams.”
 - November – April:
 - Not to exceed 30-day geometric mean of 1,000 counts per 100 mL
 - Not to exceed 4,000 counts per 100 mL of any sample