



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**
Alister F. Martin, MD, MPP
Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 3, 2026

**STATEMENT FROM NYC HEALTH COMMISSIONER DR. ALISTER F. MARTIN ON HEALTH
AND SAFETY OF HUDSON RIVER ACTIVITIES**

NEW YORK, NY — New York City Health Commissioner Dr. Alister F. Martin issued the following statement on the health and safety of activities in the Hudson River:

“We are aware of the power failure at the Yonkers Joint wastewater treatment plant that has resulted in partially treated discharge from the facility into the Hudson River. The NYC Health Department is communicating closely with the New York State Department of Health and Department of Environmental Conservation and our city partners to monitor the situation. This incident should not have any effect on the Hudson River activities happening in the New York Harbor this weekend, including America 250 celebrations.”

We encourage New Yorkers to continue following all local guidance, which regularly includes that people should not drink the untreated water from the Hudson River. New Yorkers should also refrain from swimming or any activities that involves being fully immersed under water in the Hudson River. Recreational activities that involve partial contact with the water, such as boating, kayaking, and fishing, can continue as planned. Those who plan to fish should consult the New York State Health Department’s fishing advisories. The NYC Health Department and the Department of Environmental Protection have confirmed that the power failure at the Yonkers plant has no impact on New York City's swimming beaches. All city beaches currently remain open for the Fourth of July Weekend.

We hope everyone has a great Fourth of July. Celebrate safely, drink lots of water, and refrain from spending too much time in the heat.”

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