

The high level of E. coli bacteria in Las Alcaravaneras was predictably due to a punctual discharge in the morning of last Monday

By CDM

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Noticias



The City Council of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria considers that the abnormal concentration of bacteria *Escherichia coli* - *E. coli* - detected in the beach of Las Alcaravaneras, which has caused the prohibition to the bath, was produced by a punctual episode occurred between 9.00 and 10.00 hours on Monday, August 28. The hypothesis that the technicians handle is that of a possible discharge from some vessel since the operators of EMALSA have not located any leak in the sewerage network that surrounds this port beach.

The councilors of Ciudad de Mar and Aguas, José Eduardo Ramírez and Roberto Santana, respectively, toured the beach this morning accompanied by EMALSA officials to follow up on the works in the sewerage network. In this sense, they pointed out that the council "has acted and has taken care of from the first moment to guarantee the safety of bathers and users of the beach, to locate the origin of this anomalous situation and to put into action the necessary corrective measures."

In any case, the municipality considers that the level of *E. coli* was fired abnormally for a punctual episode that occurred between 9 am and 10 am on Monday. "While the results of the samples of water collected by the company Hidrotecnia at 9.00 hours give optimum results; The Canarian Government's analyzes of the water collected an hour later give very high results of *E. coli* bacteria. These data explain that the situation of the bath water changed in that period of time," said José Eduardo Ramírez. In the northern part of the beach, the closest to the Yacht Club, the *E. coli* level at 9:00 am was 92 cfu / 100 and an hour later, it rose to 7,500 cfu / 100. In the central area of Las Alcaravaneras was recorded at 9:00 am 6 cfu / 100 and at 10:00 am this indicator was 8,500 cfu / 100. Finally, in the southern area, the closest space to the sports harbor, the samples at 9.00 hours gave 3 cfu / 100 in *E. coli* and one hour later, 3,000 cfu / 100.

The Health Department of Gran Canaria returned to collect in the morning of Wednesday new water samples whose results will be known tomorrow. "We are confident it has been a timely escape. The marine dynamics are very variable but we hope this episode is over. While we will keep all precautionary measures with the ban on the bathroom," said Santana.

Ciudad de Mar recalls that the city council performs periodic analyzes, three times a week, on the beach of Las Alcaravaneras with optimal results for the bath and the use of the beach. These are analyzes that complement those carried out by the Government of the Canary Islands.

The councilors also toured the beach of Las Canteras that was affected yesterday, in just 10 meters at the height of Punta Brava next to Playa Chica by a small spot of microalgae for two hours. Ramirez confirmed that the high tide diluted these cyanobacteria and that Red Cross has not since detected any spot again. "The whole service is vigilant and we will continue to apply the recommendations of the Canary Islands government according to the number and scope of these organisms if they return to approach the bathing area