



**Staff Report**

---

**Report To: West Elgin Recreation Committee**

**From: Jeff Slater**

**Date:** February 19 2019

**Report:** RC03-2019

**Subject: Blue Flag Beach Report**

---

**Recommendation:**

That West Elgin Recreation Committee hereby receive the report from J. Slater, Recreation Superintendent re: Blue Flag Beach Report

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to provide the West Elgin Recreation Committee the report on the Blue Flag Beach Control Visit.

**Background:**

Controller visited the beach on September 5, 2018 and produced the attached report.

**Financial Implications:**

**Policies/Legislation:**

**Related Documents**

Blue Flag Beach Controller Report.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jeff Slater*

---

Jeff Skater Recreation Superintendent

Approved by,

---

Genevieve Scharback, CAO/Clerk

## Control Visit: Beach

### Basic Information

Date	05/09/18
Time	10:13 AM (-4 GMT)
Name of the Beach	Port Glasgow Beach
Municipality	Elgin County
Province	Ontario
Country	Canada
Type of visit	Announced
Name of the controller	Tessa Soltendieck
Did a staff member meet you to attend the visit?	Yes
Name and title of the staff member who attended the visit:	Jeff Slater
Is there access to the beach for people with disabilities?	No
Is there access to the water for people with disabilities?	No
Is there access for the visually impaired?	No

**Control Visit: Beach**

Upload nice photos of the beach/facilities, for promotion and reports.

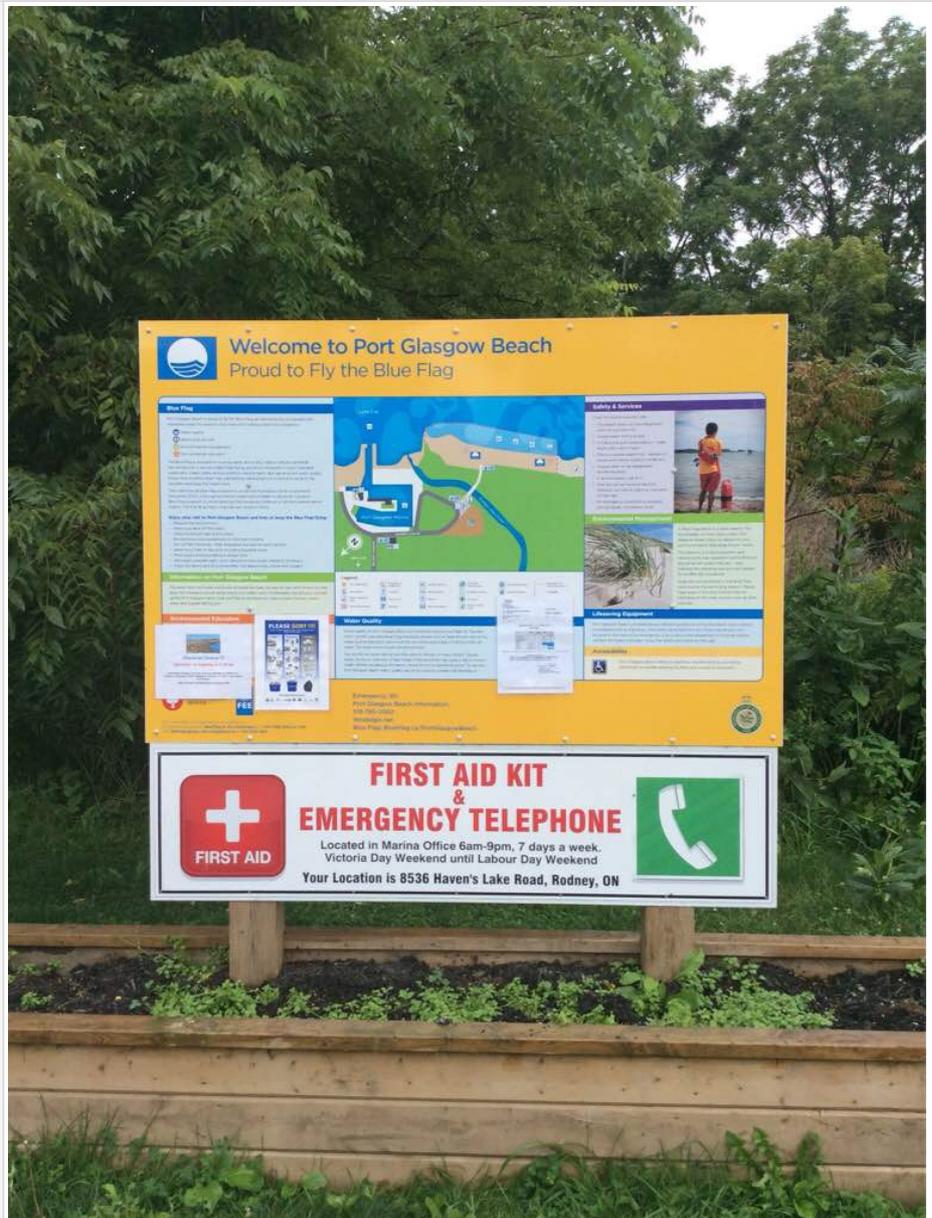


**Environmental Education and Information**

Is the Blue Flag Flying?	Yes
If no, why not?	
Is only the Blue Flag for the current season (2017) flying?	Yes
Does the beach have the common information board in place?	Yes
If yes, is it the newest information board template (yellow)?	Yes

## Control Visit: Beach

Upload photos of the information board. Please ensure you get both sides if it is the two-sided version.



Are the international pictograms used?	Yes
Is the correct Blue Flag logo used?	Yes
Is information about the Blue Flag programme and criteria included on the information board?	No
Is there contact information for Environmental Defence and FEE?	Yes
Are the water quality test results posted?	Yes
Are water quality results less than a week old?	Yes

**Control Visit: Beach**

<p>Are water quality results easy to understand for the public?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Is a code of conduct posted at the beach?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Is information about the local environment/ecosystem/sensitive areas available?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>If yes, is the information relevant?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>If yes, does the code of conduct include information about behaviour in the sensitive area?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Upload photos of all additional environmental information (brochures, signage, displays, etc)</p>	

**Control Visit: Beach**

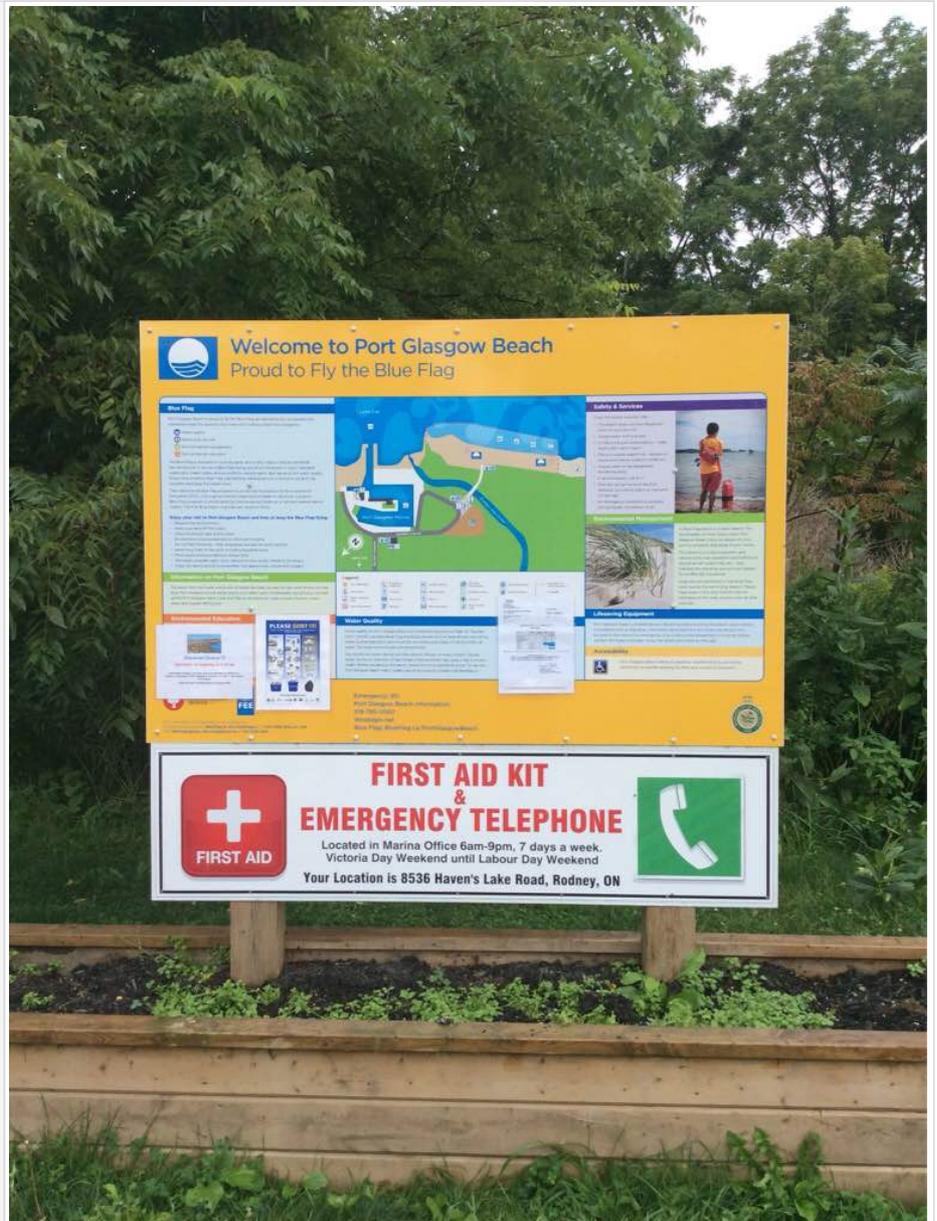


<p><b>Evaluate the map on the information board, and check-off elements that are present:</b></p>	<p>Toilets, Car and bicycle parking areas, Location of water sampling points, Scale bar, Lifeguards or lifesaving equipment, Telephones, Recycling facilities, Blue Flag boundaries, Compass rose, Drinking water, "You are here" pointer, First aid equipment, Accessible toilets, Footpaths, Nearby natural sensitive areas, etc.</p>
<p><b>Are there at least 5 distinct environmental initiatives offered in the municipality/community?</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Are environmental initiatives posted at the beach?</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Please include information about environmental initiatives, and where they are promoted.</b></p>	<p>4 initiatives posted/permanent at the beach: Shoreline Clean Up, Recycling Sorting Campaign, No Butts, And an info board on Lake Erie.</p>

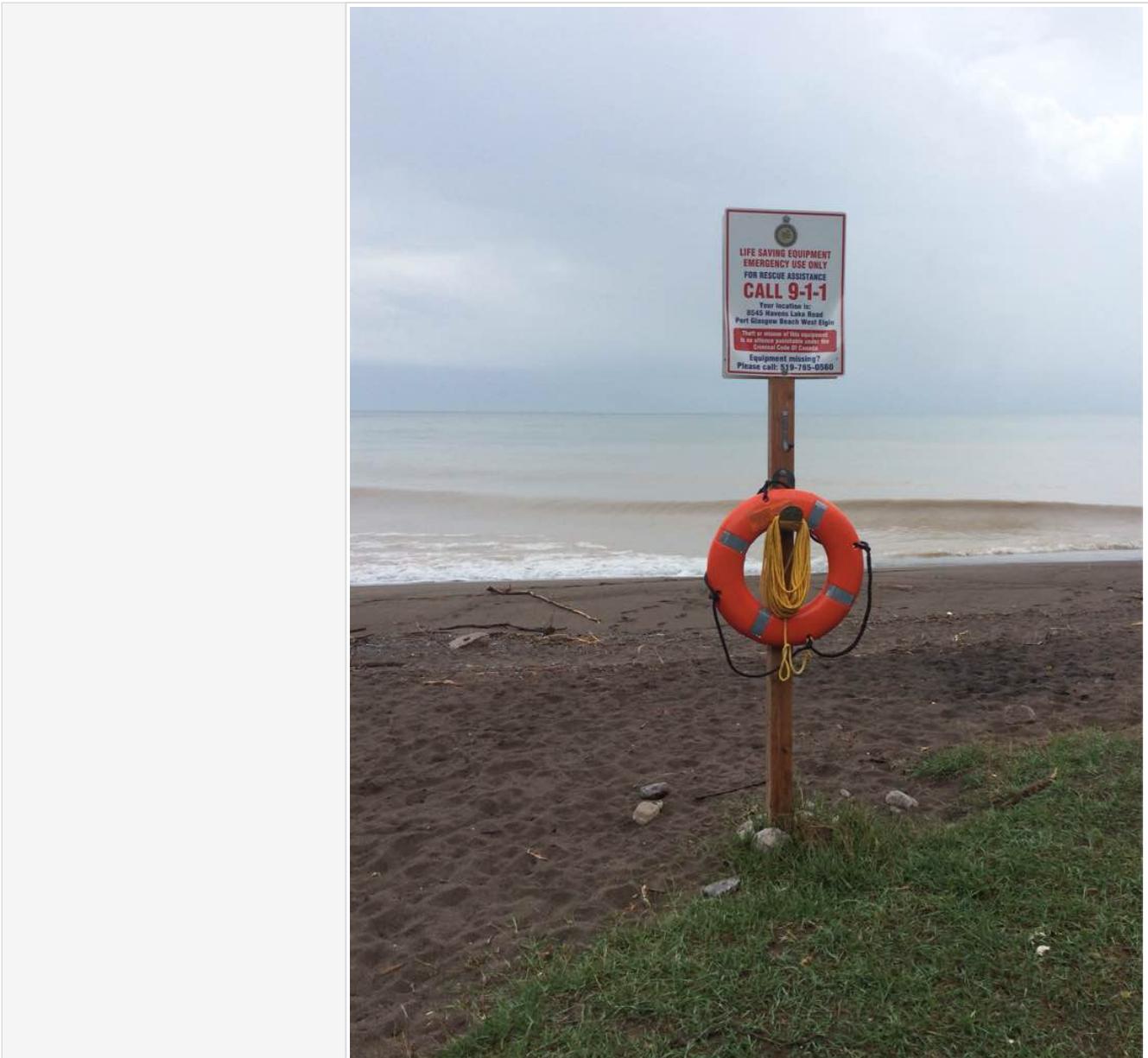


## Control Visit: Beach

Upload photos of any signage warning the public of safety concerns.



**Control Visit: Beach**



**Water Quality**

<p>Are there any signs that sewage related waste (oil film, odours, foam, discolouration) or other waste affects the beach/water?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Upload photos showing beach water quality, including sewage related waste, as required.</p>	
<p>If this is an announced visit, ask beach operator about the procedure used to collect water samples.</p>	<p>Wade in chest deep to retrieve samples.</p>

**Environmental Management**

**Control Visit: Beach**

Does the beach appear to be regularly cleaned?	Yes
Please rate the cleanliness of the beach (1 being extremely dirty and 6 extremely clean)	6
Upload photos of litter, as required.	
Are there enough litter bins on the beach?	Yes
Do litter bins appear to be regularly emptied?	Yes
Are there recycling bins on or near the beach?	Yes
Upload photos of waste/recycling facilities.	

**Control Visit: Beach**



Is driving on the beach prohibited?	Yes
If driving is allowed on the beach, is it controlled?	N/A
Is camping prohibited on the beach?	Yes
Are natural surrounding areas preserved?	Yes

**Control Visit: Beach**

Upload photos of protected/flourishing or damaged/disturbed natural areas.



Is seaweed, or other natural debris a nuisance at the beach?

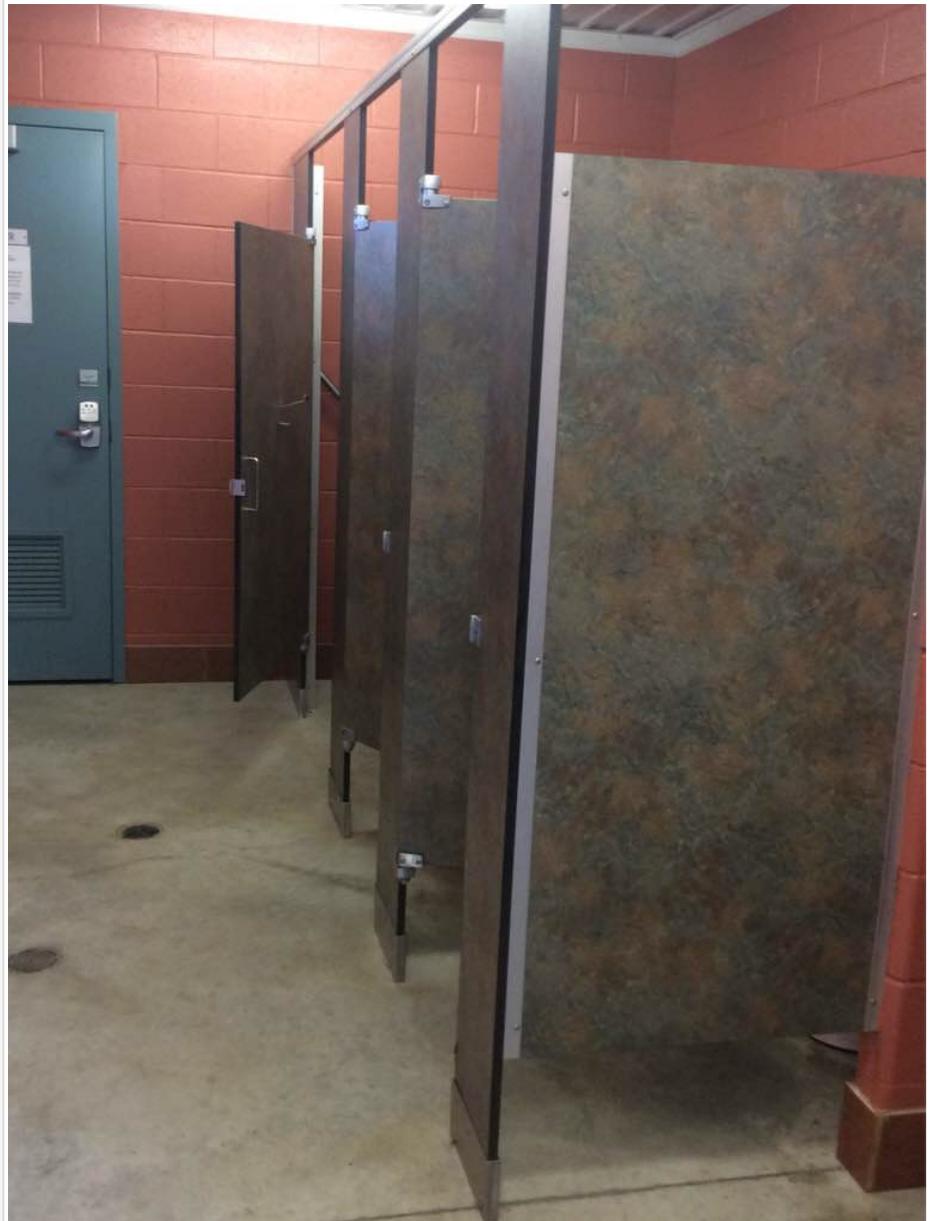
No

Regarding the washroom facilities, check off all that apply.

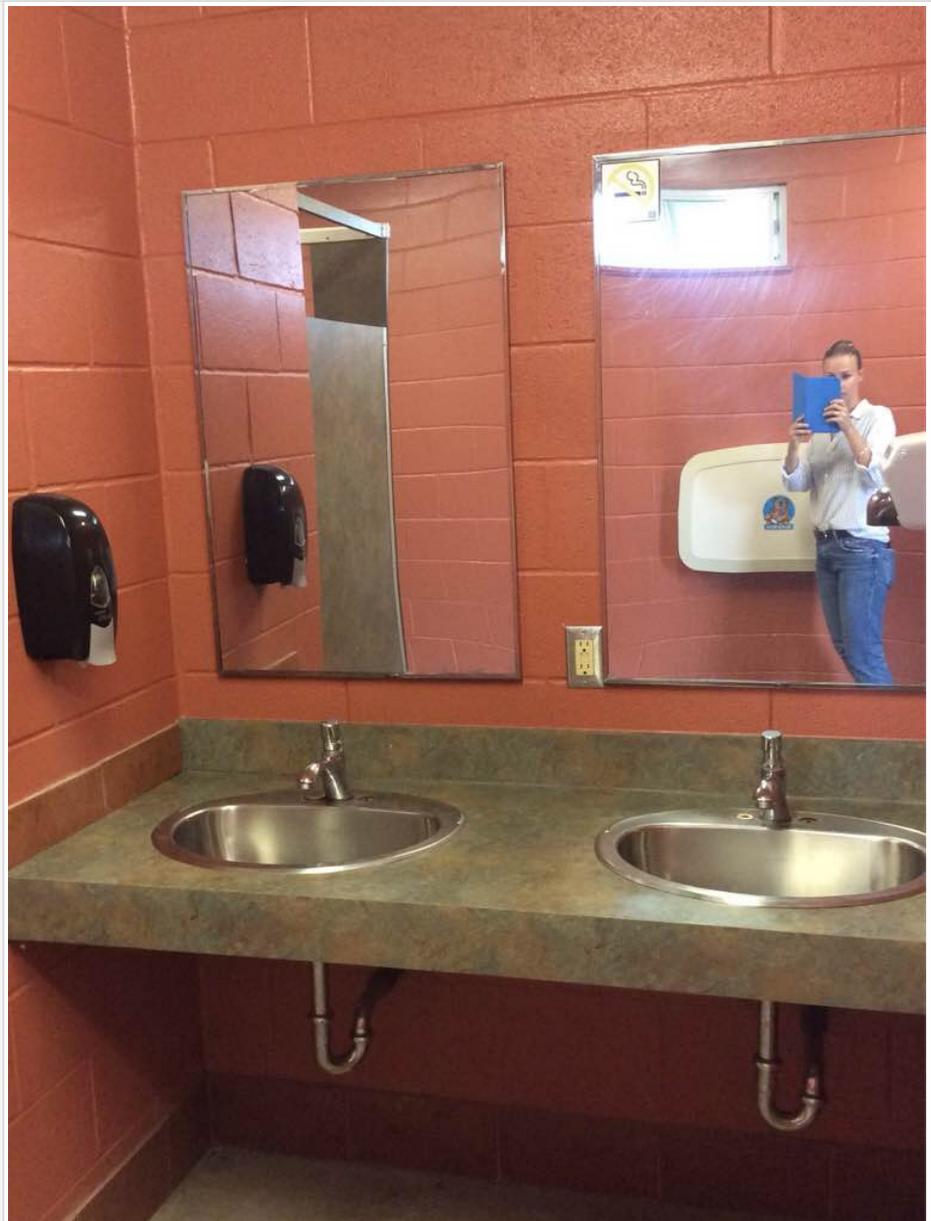
Reasonable number of facilities, Controlled sewage disposal, Appear to be regularly cleaned, Reasonable distance from anywhere on the beach, Easy to find, Facilities for people with disabilities

**Control Visit: Beach**

Upload photos of the washroom facilities, as required.



**Control Visit: Beach**



Are buildings and the surrounding area well maintained?	Yes
Upload photos of the buildings and surrounding areas, as required.	
Are dogs prohibited on the beach?	Yes
If not, are they prohibited from the Blue Flag zone, and controlled?	Yes
Upload photos of dog feces, as required.	
Is sustainable transportation promoted at the beach?	No

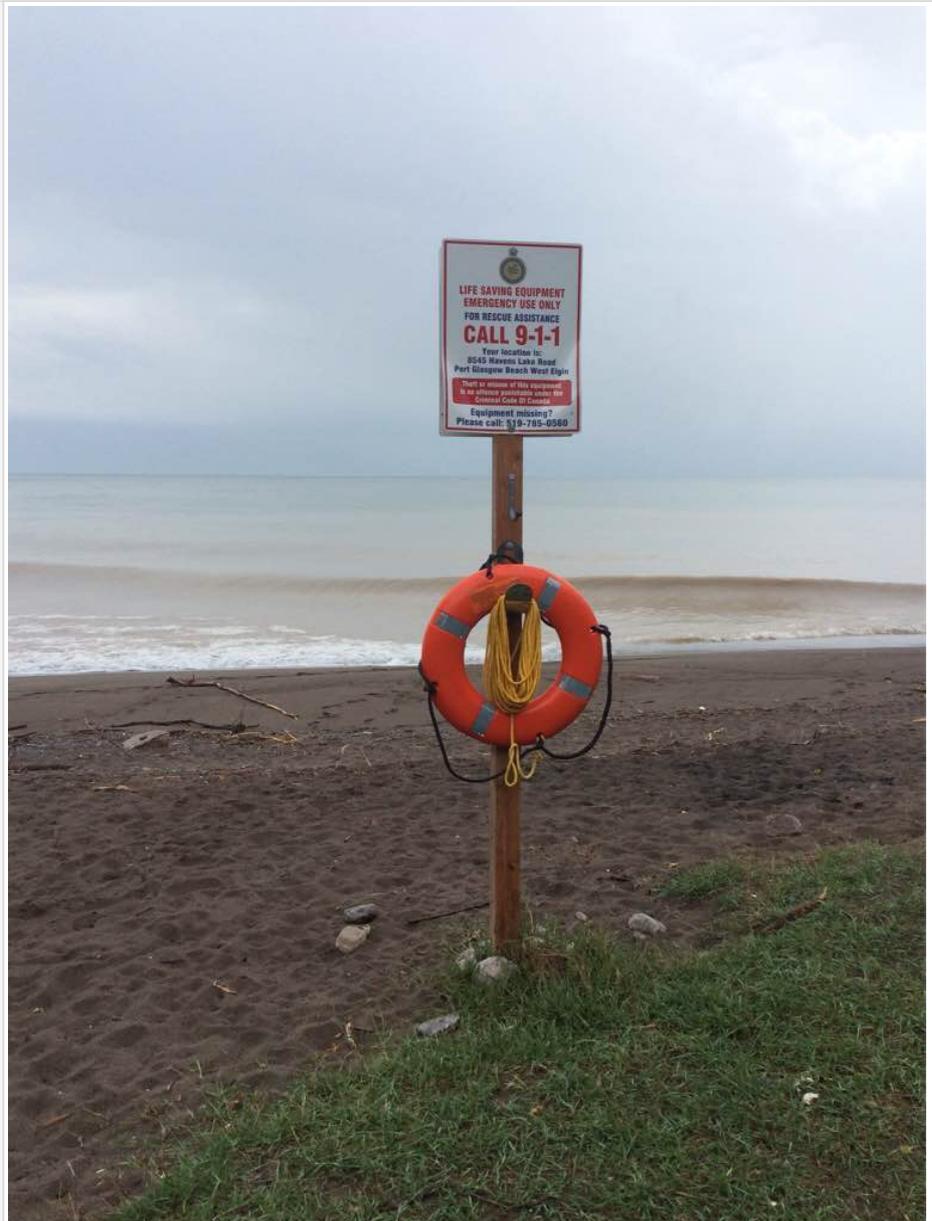
## Control Visit: Beach

### Safety and Services

Is access to the beach free?	Yes
If there is a fee, how much is it?	\$
In what year was the last Lifesaving Society safety audit conducted?	
Are there lifeguards on site?	No
If there are lifeguards, are there enough to serve the whole beach (recommended two/200m)	N/A
If there are lifeguards, are they easy to locate?	N/A
If there are lifeguards, are the hours of supervision clearly posted?	
If there are no lifeguards, does the lifesaving equipment include access to a telephone?	Yes
Is the beach equipped with lifesaving equipment?	Yes
Does there seem to be enough lifesaving equipment to serve the beach? (rec: max 100m between 2)	Yes
Is the lifesaving equipment in working order?	Yes
Is the lifesaving equipment easy to locate?	Yes

**Control Visit: Beach**

Upload photos of the lifeguards (if any) and lifesaving equipment.



Does the beach have warning or zoning signs and/or flags?	No
Is first aid equipment on the beach?	No
Is the first aid equipment in working order?	Yes
Is the first aid equipment well sign-posted and easy to find?	Yes
Are the hours of availability for the first aid equipment clearly posted?	Yes
Is it necessary to zone?	No

## Control Visit: Beach

Are different recreational activities properly zoned?	N/A
Is there potable water available?	No
If potable water is available, is it protected from contamination by animals?	N/A
Is there access to the beach for people with disabilities?	No
Is there reserved parking for people with disabilities?	No
Upload photos of mobi-mats or other accessibility devices, if present.	
Is there a telephone at/near the beach?	Yes
Is the telephone within a reasonable distance from anywhere on the beach?	Yes
Is access to the beach safe?	Yes

## Compliance comments

Areas of non-compliance (please be exact):	
What recommendations were made to improve the site?	Blue Flag recommends posting a series of environmental engagement activities at the beach from the very beginning of the season. This is a best practice in terms of meeting the education criteria, and ensures that visitors are more likely to see and engage in those activities.
Best practices noticed during the visit:	Naturalized area seems to be thriving, beach and facilities very clean. Recycling and garbage facilities well indicated and marked with signage that encourages proper segregation of waste items.
Other comments:	

## Status of Blue Flag Beach

Status of the Blue Flag Beach	Full compliance with Blue Flag criteria
-------------------------------	---