

Contaminated area

Contamination at Kærgård plantation and along the beach.

In the period 1956-1973, part of Kærgård plantation was contaminated with poisonous slurry and wastewater from the pharmaceutical industry. The wastewater was dumped into six waste pits in the dunes and has since permeated via groundwater to contaminate part of the beach.

The contaminated area of the beach is marked with yellow warning signs and bollards. Bathing is strictly prohibited in this area. Contact with sand and water within the marked areas of the beach should be avoided.

Visitors are advised to stay away from the six zones in the dunes, at which wastewater was emitted. These areas are also marked with bollards and warning signs.

There is no risk of contact with pollutants outside the marked areas and it is safe to bathe in the sea and dig in the sand. The beaches on either side of the marked area have the Blue Flag, indicating that the seawater is safe to bathe in.

Drinking water in the area is pure and obtained from areas at a safe distance from the contaminated groundwater.

The contaminated areas are shown on the map.



In 2008, in collaboration with the Danish Environment Ministry, the Region of Southern Denmark began to remediate the contaminated areas of the dunes inland from the beach. Since then, 7,500 tons of contaminated sand and slurry has been removed from the waste pits. This means that contamination now represents a risk only if you stand directly above waste pits 1-6 or walk within the marked areas of the beach.

The primary goal of decontamination work in Kærgård plantation so far has been to stop further evaporation of hazardous substances from the waste pits and to allow neighbours, visitors and everyone else to move freely in the dunes. Analyses in coming years will determine whether the signs and bollards prohibiting activity above the waste pits can be removed.