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## Holland State Park beach closes due to rip currents

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Submitted by [Matt Campbell](#), Executive Producer  
Wednesday, August 3rd, 2011, 10:10pm

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PARK TOWNSHIP, Mich. (WZZM) -- The Michigan Department of Natural Resources closed the beach at Holland State Park two hours early because of dangerous rip current conditions in Lake Michigan.

DNR officers instructed people to get out of the water and leave the beach area, according to WZZM 13's Blake Naftel. The beach normally closes around 9:30 p.m.

A Coast Guard spokesman says emergency crews had rescued at least 28 people out of the lake by 7:30 p.m. Wednesday because of rip currents. At least 4 people had to be transported to area hospitals for treatment.

One of the rescues involved a Chicago man and his son, who were caught into a current and thrown against the rocks along the pier around noon Wednesday. Joseph Murphy, 50, and his 15-year-old son Aiden, suffered cuts and abrasions and were taken to Holland Community Hospital.

Red flag warnings were out all day Wednesday at Holland State Park and other beaches along Lake Michigan.

Last summer, WZZM 13's Sarah Barwacz went out into Lake Michigan too look at the dangers of rip currents. You can read and watch her [13 On Your Side](#) report.

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