

Blue Flag Information Board Component Checklist

The Blue Flag Information Board is a key component of meeting the criteria for award. It is both a visual representation of the program and key means of communication with the public. Below you will find a list compiled to help ensure you are including all the components necessary to avoid non-compliance.

General Components

	All Blue Flag information boards must follow national standards
	The correct Blue Flag logo must be used, in accordance with the FEE branding guidelines
	The essence of each of the four categories of the Blue Flag criteria must be explained in this information
	The length of the Blue Flag season must also be included
	Contact details for the local, national and international Blue Flag representatives must be posted as well.
	Beach operating licenses and statutory permits posted on the information board
	Explanation of what it means to not be flying the flag or not being in compliance
	In the event that the Blue Flag is temporarily withdrawn, a relevant notice must be posted at the beach informing the public as to the reasons why the flag was withdrawn
	Emergency contacts on the board at least 911, think about health department, or environmental/water quality contacts, or someone for pollution

Environmental Education Activities

	Preferably, the activities should be posted on the common information board
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	Whatever the platform for dissemination is, it has to be stated on the information board where the user can find out more about the activities
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Water Quality

	Bathing water quality information must be displayed on the Blue Flag information board. It is recommended that a table or figure with easily identifiable symbols that correspond to the results be used (see Appendix D below)
	The information must also clearly explain how the water quality results relate to the imperative criteria for water quality, with specific reference to sampling frequency and the conditions under which Blue Flag status can be withdrawn
	Language must be included explaining why the site sample frequency is different between microbiological parameters.

Ecosystems, Environmental Elements, and Cultural Sites

	Information about coastal zone ecosystems, wetland areas, unique habitats or any sensitive natural areas must be displayed at or close to the Blue Flag beach. The information must include details about the natural area and a code of conduct for visitors to the area.
	If the full information is not available on the Blue Flag information board, there must at least be a short notice on the board informing the public about the nearby sensitive areas and where they can find further information.
	In the case of sensitive underwater environments, specific information about these areas must be provided for divers and snorkelers.

Code of Conduct

	The beach code of conduct must be displayed on the Blue Flag information board. The information could furthermore be posted at other locations
	The code of conduct must include rules about the presence of domestic animals, zoning (when appropriate), fishing, litter management, the use of vehicles, camping, fires, etc.
	Information about these restrictions must be displayed at the beach (as part of the code of

	conduct, Criterion 6)
	The period when the lifesaving equipment and/or lifeguards, and first aid, are available must be clearly marked on the Blue Flag information boards and at the lifeguard station.
	An explanation of the emergency flag system in use must also be provided.

Map

	showing the boundaries of the Blue Flag beach area
	good quality, easy to read and properly oriented
	Information about sustainable transport to and around the beach
	lifeguards or lifesaving equipment
	the area patrolled (for beaches with lifeguards)
	first aid equipment
	telephones
	Toilets (including toilets for people with limited abilities)
	Drinking water
	Car and bicycle parking areas
	Authorized camping at or near the beach
	Recycling facilities
	Location of water sampling point(s)
	Access points and accesses for people with limited abilities
	Zoning for swimming, surfing, sailing, etc.
	Nearby public transport
	footpaths
	Demarcation of Blue Flag area
	Location of other information boards
	Rivers and inflows

	Local landmarks
	Stormwater outlets
	Nearby sensitive natural areas, cultural sites, etc.
	Legend to include North direction indicator, you are here point, and scale bar

APPENDIX D: Recommendations for presenting water quality information on Blue Flag beaches. Example of a coastal water beach: [Criterion 3]

Beach: _____





Local authority: _____

Contact person: _____

Telephone no: _____

Date												
Escherichiacoli / Faecal coliform												
J < 250cfu/100ml												
K >250cfu/100 ml												
Intestinal Enterococci / Faecal streptococci												
J <100/100 ml												
K >100/100 ml												

Blue Flag and bathing water quality	What do the results mean?	
	Faecal coliform / E.coli	Faecal streptococci / Intestinal enterococci
This beach has met the Blue Flag water quality standards. The bathing water is continuously monitored for the different types of bacteria shown in the tables. The bathing water is tested at least every 31 days. In the table, you can see when the water has been		

<p>analysed and how many bacteria were found.</p> <p>A small number of bacteria tells you that the water is very clean - a high number of bacteria tells you that the water may be polluted and could contain bacteria from sewage.</p>		
	Below 250	Below 100
	<i>Excellent bathing water</i>	
		
Above 250	Above 100	
<i>Is allowed a few times during the season</i>		