# BlaaFlag jpgApplication form for Blue Flag beaches

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE MUNICIPALITY/COMMUNITY:**

Name of the municipality:

Address: \_

Region:

Community:

Telephone number:

Fax number:

E-mail and website:

Name and function of contact person:

Name and function of contact person during holidays:

No. of permanent inhabitants in the community/municipality:

No. of inhabitants in the community/municipality during the peak season:

How many beaches are there in the community/municipality?

How many beaches in the community/municipality are applying for the Blue Flag?

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE APPLYING BLUE FLAG BEACH:**

a. Beach name:

b. Registration or nuts number:

c. GPS coordinates of the beach (one point, central to the beach) in Decimal Degrees:

d. Name of beach operator responsible for the beach management:

e. Address:

f. Telephone number:

g. Fax number:

h.E-mail and website:

i. Name of contact person during holidays:

j. Estimated maximum number of visitors per day:

k. Estimated average number of visitors per day:

l. Is the beach sandy?  Yes  No

m. Is the beach rocky?  Yes  No

n. Is there any kiosk/shop near the site?  Yes  No

o. Is it a nudist beach?  Yes  No  Partly

p. Blue Flag site awarded since:  New applicant

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND INFORMATION**

How long is the beach?

How many information boards are in place?

Are the information boards nationally standardised with respect to information content and design (common information board)? Yes:  No:

**1. Information about the Blue Flag Programme must be displayed**

1.1 Is the information about the Blue Flag Programme displayed at the beach information board? Yes: , No:

1.2 Is the information also posted elsewhere? Major access points: , Lifeguard stations: , Other beach facilities: , Parking areas: , Tourism office:

1.3 Please confirm that the information includes: Who is responsible at the local, national and international level: , Length of the Blue Flag season: , Flag will be removed in case of non-compliance:

**2. Environmental education activities must be offered and promoted to beach users**

2.1. How many environmental education/information/training projects or activities have been planned for the coming Blue Flag season? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ projects or activities.

2.2. Please indicate which persons, groups and/or organisations are involved in the making of these projects/activities: NGO , Local Agenda 21 Co-ordinator , Rangers , Marine museum , Tourism organisation , others  (please specify: )

2.3. Please provide the following information for each of the five activities:

a) The name of the activity

b) The goal of the activity

c) Targeting group

d) The contents/message of the activity

e) The method (used to get the message across)

f) Appendix/examples/etc.

2.4. Is the information about the activities posted on the beach information board? Yes:No:

2.5. Are there any sensitive nature areas (including Marine Protected Areas) near the Blue Flag beach? Yes:No:

a. If yes, please give details:

2.6. Is there an Environmental Interpretation Centre or similar permanent public environmental education place within the community/municipality? Yes:No:

a. If yes, please give details:

2.7 If the beach had the Blue Flag the previous year, please list the activities that were held and make a short assessment on the success of these activities (did many people participate, what was the outcome, etc). Try to focus on how these activities could be improved for the future:

*ACTIVITY 1:*

1. Name of the activity:
2. Assessment of activity:

*ACTIVITY 2:*

1. Name of the activity:
2. Assessment of activity:

*ACTIVITY 3:*

1. Name of the activity:
2. Assessment of activity:

*ACTIVITY 4:*

1. Name of the activity:
2. Assessment of activity:

*ACTIVITY 5:*

1. Name of the activity:
2. Assessment of activity:

**3. Information on bathing water quality must be displayed**

3.1 Is updated information (always less than one month old) about bathing water quality displayed at the beach information board? Yes: , No:

3.2 Is the information also posted elsewhere? Major access points: , Lifeguard stations: , Other beach facilities: , Parking areas: , Tourism office:

3.3 Please confirm that the information includes: Interpretation of the table/figures: , Statement that the flag will be removed in case of non-compliance:

3.4 Is it presented in a format that is easily read and understood by the public regardless of language? Yes:No:

a. Please describe this format:

**4. Information relating to local eco-systems and environmental phenomena must be displayed**

4.1 Are there any natural sensitive areas (including Marine Protected Areas) or valuable cultural sites in the coastal zone?

Yes:  No:

a. If yes, do you display information about these areas at the beach information board? Yes:No:  (If no information is displayed, please describe why:

)

b. If yes, is the information also displayed elsewhere? At the sensitive area: , Tourist sites: , Tourist office: , Tourist brochure/newspaper:

c. If yes, does the information include information about appropriate behaviour in the area? Yes:  No:

d. If yes, briefly describe these areas:

e. If the sensitive area is an underwater area, is there specific information for divers and snorkelers? Yes: , No:

f. If yes, which local conservation groups (including Marine Protected Area management) have been contacted for advice on management techniques/appropriate conduct for these areas?

g. If no to question 4.1, do you display information about environmental eco-systems or local phenomena?

Yes: , No:

Please describe the information displayed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

h. Which local groups have been contacted for advice on this information?

**5. A map of the beach indicating different facilities must be displayed**

5.1 Is a map of the beach indicating facilities displayed on the beach information board? Yes:No:

5.2 Does the map show the location of the following?

"You are here" pointers Yes:No:

Demarcation of Blue Flag area Yes:No:

Lifeguards or lifesaving equipment Yes:No:

First aid equipment Yes:No:

The area patrolled (beaches with lifeguards) Yes:No:

Telephones Yes:No:

Toilets (including toilets for disabled) Yes:No:

Drinking water Yes:No:

Car and bicycle parking Yes:No:

Authorized camping sites at/near the beach Yes:No:

Larger waste receptacles Yes:No:

Recycling facilities Yes:No:

Water sampling points Yes:No:

Access points and access for disabled Yes:No:

Foot paths Yes:No:

Zoning (swimming, sailing, surfing etc) Yes:No:

Storm water outlets Yes:No:

Rivers and inflows Yes:No:

Nearby natural sensitive areas Yes:No:

Local landmarks (where applicable) Yes:No:

Nearby public transport Yes:No:

Scale bar Yes:No:

Direction (North) Yes:No:

a. For any of the above marked No, please describe why these are not marked on the map:

5.3 Does the map use pictograms to show the features listed above? Yes:No:

**6. Code of conduct for the beach area must be displayed and the laws governing beach use must be easily available to the public upon request**

6.1. Is the information about the beach code of conduct displayed at the beach information board? Yes: , No:

6.2 Does the beach code of conduct include the following: rules about the presence of domestic animals: , zoning: , using trash bins: , vehicles on the beach: , camping: , fires: , times of lifeguard duty and the area patrolled , the times of first aid availability , explanation of the emergency flag system , emergency phone numbers

6.3. Are there laws governing beach use available to the public? Yes:No:

**WATER QUALITY**

For European countries: Has your country started sampling according to the 2006 EU Bathing Water Directive? Yes:No:

**7. The beach must fully comply with the water quality sampling and frequency requirements.**

7.1 Have the samples been taken according to the requirements regarding frequency (minimum five samples per bathing season)?

Yes:No:

7.2 Are there any streams, rivers or other inlets entering the beach? Yes:No:

a. If yes, is sampling done near the mouth of the stream or river?

Yes:No:

b. If yes, do the samplings record any effect on the bathing water quality?

Yes:No:

**8. The beach must fully comply with the standards and requirements for water quality analysis**

8.1. How many sampling sites does the beach have?

8.2 Is an independent person officially authorised/trained for collecting the samples?

Yes:No:

8.3 Name, address and telephone/fax number of the laboratory responsible for analysingthe bathing water quality samplings:

8.4 Is the laboratory national/international accredited to carry out the analyses?

Yes:No:

a. Please indicate the type of accreditation and give the accreditation number for the laboratory:

8.5 What methods of analyses does the laboratory use?

a. for faecal coliform / E.coli bacteria?

b. for faecal streptococci / intestinal enterococci?

d. for physical-chemical measurements?

8.6 Is there compliance at the beach regarding procedure and policy with the Blue Flag water quality requirements:

a. for faecal coliform bacteria / E.coli? Yes:No:

b. for faecal streptococci / intestinal enterococci? Yes:No:

d. for physical-chemical measurements? Yes:No:

8.7 Is there a sampling calendar? Yes:No:

8.8 Is there a four year sampling history? Yes:No:

**9. No industrial, waste-water or sewage-related discharges should affect the beach area**

9.1 Are there any discharges of urban or industrial waste water to the beach?

Yes:No:

a. If yes, please describe how it is documented that these discharges do not effect the water quality of the beach area?

9.2 Are there any industrial facilities or plants in the vicinity that could potentially have an influence on the surrounding coastal environment? Yes:No:

a. If yes, please describe the facilities and their potential effects:

b. If yes, please describe how it is ensured that the there is no threat to public health or environmental hazard from the nearby industrial facility:

9.3 Does the collection, treatment and discharge of urban wastewater in the community meet the national/EU standards and legislation? Yes:  No:

a. If no, please describe how and why:

9.4 Is there any untreated waste water released anywhere in the community?

Yes:No:

a. If yes, specify source, release and approximate number of untreated releases:

9.5 Is the beach affected by waste brought onto land from the water? Yes:No:

a. If yes, what remedial actions are taken?

9.6 Is there a bathing water profile? Yes:No:

**10. The beach must fully comply with the Blue Flag requirements for the microbiological parameters faecal colibacteria (E.coli) and faecal enterococci / streptococci.**

10.1 Is the 95th percentile used in the calculation of the samples?

Yes:No:

10.2 Are the samples within the required limit values for E.coli?

Yes:No:

10.3 Are the samples within the required limit values for intestinal enterococci?

Yes:No:

**11. The beach must fully comply with the Blue Flag requirements for the physical-chemical parameters.**

11.1 Is the beach monitored for the physical-chemical parameters: the pH value, oils, and floatables?

Yes:No:

11.2 Have any abnormal changes been detected in colour, transparency and turbidity of the water?

Yes:No:

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**12. The local authority or beach operator should establish a beach management committee**

12.1 Please list the beach management committee members and their affiliations (i.e. beach manager, lifeguard, education expert, Marine Protected Area representative, special user group, special interest group):

12.2 Please indicate the activities of the beach management committee in the past year:

**13. The local authority or beach operator must comply with all regulations affecting the location and operation of the beach**

13.1 Is there a land use and development plan for the coastal zone? Yes:No:

a. If yes, is the beach and immediate hinterland (including location and use/operation of facilities and structures) in full compliance with the land-use/development plan and other relevant environmental legislation? Yes:No:

b. If no, please explain why not:

13.2 Are the beach licenses and statutory permits posted on the information board? Yes:No:

**14. Sensitive Area management**

14.1 Is your Blue Flag beach in or near a Marine Protected Area? Yes:No:

a. If yes, do you consult with the MPA management to ensure suitable ecosystem conservation and biodiversity goals? Yes:No:

b. If yes, please elaborate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**15. The beach must be clean**

15.1 Does the beach comply with national guidelines concerning litter? Yes:No:

15.2 Is the beach, surrounding area, paths, parking areas and access points to the beach clean and maintained at all times? Yes:No:

15.3 How often is it cleaned?

15.4 By what methods is it cleaned?

15.5 Do you determine the cleanliness of the beach by applying the Measuring System for Beach Litter? Yes:  No:

15.6 What is the average cleanliness level at this beach (on the scale from A+ to D) according to the Measuring System for Beach Litter?

15.7 Are there turtle nesting areas on/near the beach? Yes:  No:

15.8 When cleaning the beach, do you make sure that these areas are left in peace?

Yes:  No:

**16. Algae vegetation or other natural debris should be left to decay on the beach**

16.1 Is algae or other vegetation present on the beach? Yes:No:

16.2 Is the algae or other vegetation left on the beach unless it constitutes a nuisance? Yes:No:

a. If no, please describe why:

16.3 Is the removed algae or vegetation disposed in an environmentally friendly way?

Yes:No:

a. Please describe how it is disposed of:

**17. Waste disposal bins/containers must be available on/by the beach in adequate numbers and they must be regularly maintained**

17.1 Are there enough litter bins on the beach (or larger receptacles at the beach access points) and are they well secured, maintained and spaced appropriately? Yes:No: .

17.2 Are they regularly emptied as needed for the use of the beach? Yes:No:

How often are the litter bins emptied during peak season? times per week

17.3 Does your litter go to an approved disposal site? Yes:No:

a. If yes, which?

b. Please give the licence / authorization code of the disposal site (or alternatively enclose the waste permit):

c. If no, where and under what circumstances is litter disposed of?

**18. Facilities for the separation of recyclable waste materials should be available at the beach**

18.1 Is there a local/municipal recycling programme or facilities? Yes:No:

18.2 Are there receptacles on the beach for receiving recyclable materials? Yes:No:

a. Please list the types of materials that can be received:

18.3 Are they regularly emptied as needed for the use of the beach? Yes:No:

18.4 If less than 3 kinds of materials are not received please explain why:

**19. An adequate number of toilet or restroom facilities must be provided**

19.1 Are there adequate sanitary facilities for the peak number of users? Yes:No:

a. Please give the number of toilets:   
b. Are they equipped with a washbasin, soap and clean towels or a dryer? Yes:No:

**20. Toilet or restroom facilities must be kept clean**

20.1 Are the sanitary facilities kept clean at all times? Yes:No:

a. How often are they cleaned?

b. Are environmentally friendly materials used? Yes:No:

**21. Toilet or restroom facilities must have controlled sewage disposal**

21.1 Please specify type of sewage disposal from the toilets and other sanitary waste

water (i.e. connection to community septic system or septic tank):

**22. On the beach there will be no unauthorised camping or driving and no dumping**

22.1 Is driving permitted on the beach? Yes:No:

a. If yes, how is it regulated?

22.2 Is camping allowed on the beach? Yes:No:

a. If yes, is this taking place in areas specifically zoned for this use and load capacity?

Yes:No:

22.3 Are there bylaws prohibiting unauthorized driving, dumping and camping on the beach?

Camping Yes:No:

Driving Yes:No:

Dumping Yes:No:

22.4 Is there any unauthorized camping, driving or dumping on the beach?

Camping Yes:No:

Driving Yes:No:

Dumping Yes:No:

22.5 Are there any beach events involving the use of vehicles or camping being held on the beach? Yes:No:

22.6 Is there parking for emergency vehicles in close proximity to the beach? Yes:No:

**23. Access to the beach by dogs and other domestic animals on the beach must be strictly controlled**

23.1 Are there national laws or local bye-laws concerning animals on the beach?

Yes:No:

23.2 Are domestic animals allowed on the beach? Yes:No:

a. If yes, please describe the code of conduct for domestic animals on the beach:

b. If yes, please describe the measures taken to ensure that no faecal matter contaminates the beach:

**24. All buildings and beach equipment must be properly maintained**

24.1 Are all buildings and equipment on the beach properly maintained? Yes:No:

24.2 Are environmentally friendly products used to maintain the buildings/equipment?

Yes:No:

24.3 Are there any construction projects going on in the beach area? Yes:No:

a. If yes, please describe:

**25. Marine and freshwater sensitive habitats (such as coral reefs or sea grass beds) in the vicinity of the beach must be monitored**

25.1 Is there a sensitive habitate (coral reef or sea grass bed ) located within 500 meters from any part of the beach? Yes:No:

a. If yes, has a ”Reef Check” coral reef or sea grass bed monitoring programme been established?

Yes:No:

b. Is it the first time that the “Reef Check” coral reef or sea grass bed monitoring programme has been carried out?  or indicate the year of the last ”Reef Check” coral reef or sea grass bed monitoring programme:

c. Has a local ”Reef Check” or sea grass bed team been established? Yes:No:

d. Please confirm that information is collected concerning: Site description: , fish counts: , invertebrate counts: , substrate type measurements:

e. Has the collected information been reported to ”Reef Check” and relevant monitorihng bodies? Yes:No:

**26. Sustainable means of transportation should be promoted in the beach area**

26.1 Is the local community or the beach operator promoting sustainable means of transportation? Yes:No:

a. If yes, please explain how:

26.2 Does the local authority or beach operator have a traffic management plan regarding the traffic to/from the beach? Yes:  No:

26.3 Is there information about sustainable transportation posted on the beach information board? Yes:No:

**SAFETY AND SERVICES**

**27. An adequate number of lifeguards and/or lifesaving equipment must be available at the beach**

27.1 Has a safety risk assessment been carried out? Yes:  No:

a. If yes, when (year)?

b. If yes, by which body?

c. If yes, has an appropriate response strategy to the assessment been assured?

Yes:  No:

d. Please describe:

27.2 Are there beach guards on duty on your beach during the bathing season?

Yes:No:

a. If yes, please specify when during the season and what hours during the day:

27.3 Do the lifeguards have a national/international certification? Yes:  No:

a. According to what requirements are the lifeguards trained?

27.4 Do the lifeguards wear an easily identifiable uniform? Yes:No:

27.5 Is the life guarded area defined:

- on the beach map? Yes:No:

- with flags or markers? Yes:No:

27.6 Is there adequate public lifesaving equipment? Yes:No:

a. What type of lifesaving equipment?  life buoys,  torpedo buoys,  throw bags incl. throwing lines,  life boat/raft,  emergency phone,  other equipment:

b. Distance between equipment:

c. What official authority has approved the equipment?

d. How often is the lifesaving equipment checked?

27.7 Is the period of presence of lifeguards and/or location of public lifesaving equipment clearly marked on the beach information board or on the lifeguard station? Yes:No:

27.8 Is an explanation of the emergency flag system provided? Yes:No:

**28. First aid equipment must be available on the beach**

28.1 Is first aid available on the beach? Yes:No:

a. Is it attended or unattended? Attended  Unattended

28.2 Is the location of the first aid marked on the beach information board? Yes:No:

**29. Emergency plans to cope with pollution safety risks must be in place**

29.1 Is the community part of a local and/or regional emergency plan to cope with pollution accidents? Yes:  No:

29.2 Is this plan in compliance with other national emergency legislation for the area? Yes:No:

29.3 Does the emergency plan include a scheme to secure that the public is informed about pollution accidents? Yes:No:

29.4 Does the emergency plan cover clean-up operation? Yes:No:

29.5 Does the emergency plan specify the role of the local persons? Yes:No:

29.6 Is an emergency simulation exercise being conducted annually? Yes:No:

29.7 Are emergency phone numbers available at the information board? Yes:No:

**30. There must be management of different users and uses of the beach so as to prevent conflicts and accidents**

30.1 Are there overlapping needs among beach user groups in the beach area (e.g. water sport users and swimmers, etc.)? Yes:No:

a. If yes, please detail the overlap and how conflict is avoided:

30.2 In what way is the zoning enforced? Buoys , Signage , Lifeguards , Other ways: :

30.3 Is the beach area managed in an environmentally friendly manner with regard to the protection of sensitive species (e.g. turtles) and habitats (e.g. sensitive dunes)?   
Yes:No:

a. If yes, please describe:

30.4 If the beach has some particular sensitive feature, what local conservation group has been approached for advice on the management of this?

30.5 Is the zoning of the beach clearly defined on the beach map? Yes:No:

**31. There must be safety measures in place to protect the users of the beach**

31.1 How is it assured that the access to the beach is safe? Please describe the access briefly (wooden walkways, steps, ramps, pedestrian crossings, etc.):

31.2 Is there access to the beach for the general public? Yes:No:

a. Is a fee required? Yes:No:  (if yes, please indicate size of fee/currency: )

31.3 Is the beach area patrolled? Yes:No:

31.4 Are the guards trained and qualified?Yes:No:

31.5 Are the guards easily identifiable? Yes:No:

**32. A supply of potable drinking water should be available on the beach**

32.1 Is there a source of drinking water? Yes:No:

a. If yes, how is it protected from animals?

**33. At least one Blue Flag beach in each municipality must have access and facilities provided for the physically disabled**

33.1 Does this beach have access ramps for disabled people? Yes:No:

33.2 Does this beach have toilet facilities for disabled people? Yes:No:

33.3 Number of toilets for disabled people?

33.4 Does this beach have access to the water for the physically disabled (amphibian wheelchair/ ramp in the water)Yes:No:

33.5 Does this beach have access to the water for the visually disabled (equipment such as sound equipment for water, devices for adaptive water sports or others)? Yes:No:

a. If no to either of these (except 33.4), please specify which Blue Flag beach(es) in the municipality have access ramps and toilets for disabled people:

b. If there are no Blue Flag beaches in the municipality with facilities for disabled people, please describe why not:

33.6 Has an organisation for disabled people been contacted to ensure access and facilities are efficient? Yes:No:

If yes, which organisation, please elaborate? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

33.7 Does the access and toilet facilities for disabled people comply with national/international standards? Yes:No:

33.8 Is there reserved parking for disabled people? Yes:No:

**THE BLUE FLAG COMMITTMENT**

**This application is to be considered as a contract between the municipality, the beach operator and FEE. By signing we confirm that the information given above is correct and that the obligations will be fulfilled.**

**The responsible local authority and beach operator undertakes to remove the Blue Flag if an imperative criterion no longer is fulfilled and to inform each other and the national Blue Flag office immediately.**

**We are informed that the national and the International Blue Flag juries reserve the right to refuse or withdraw the Blue Flag where the beach operator or local authorities are responsible for current violations of national environmental regulations or otherwise act in discord with the objectives and spirit of the International Blue Flag Programme.**

Community/municipality: Beach operator:

Date: Date:

Sign Sign

**ENCLOSURES**

One large scale map, showing the extent and delimitation of the area(s) for which the Blue Flag is (are) applied for. This map must indicate access roads, the type of surrounding area (town, resort, rural, protected or sensitive natural areas and potential sources of pollution within 200 meters of any of the Blue Flag beaches (e.g. discharge of waste water, storm discharge, streams/rivers in neighbouring coastal stretches).

A detailed map of the beach (see criteria 5)

A copy of the information at the beach information board, including the beach map

The bathing water test results of the micro-biological and physical-chemical parameters from the entire previous season.

If there are any natural sensitive areas in the coastal zone please enclose a copy of any publicly displayed information about these areas.

If there are no natural sensitive areas, please enclose a copy of the environmental information displayed on the information board.

If there is a natural sensitive area (including Marine Protected Area), please enclose information on how this area is monitored and by whom.

Please submit a copy of the relevant part of the land-use and development plan concerning the coastal zone.

If the community/municipality has got a litter management plan, please enclose a copy of the relevant parts.

Please submit a brief description of the emergency plan, including who is responsible for what.

If the community/municipality has got a traffic management plan, please submit a copy of the relevant parts.

Information about the latest information about collection system, level of treatment, and number of samples and quality of the effluent water after treatment

Monitoring calendar established prior to the start of the bathing season

Bathing Water profile