



April 4, 2018

**RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule weeks of May 21 – May 25, 2018
And May 28 – June 1, 2018**

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on Friday, May 25th as a designated furlough day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **May 21-May 25** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Monday May 21, Tuesday May 22, and by noon on Wednesday May 23.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Monday May 21, Tuesday May 22, Wednesday May 23, and by noon on Thursday May 24.
- Slaughter samples (meat and sponge) will be accepted Monday May 21, Tuesday May 22, and by noon on Wednesday May 23, however meat samples are pooled for efficiency, generally once a week.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Monday May 21 – Thursday May 24, however the testing will be conducted when samples are pooled for efficiency.
- Dairy testing is scheduled once a month, as normal, and is already scheduled for week of May 7th.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research testing is scheduled once a month, and is already scheduled for week of May 29th, samples to be included in that testing need to be received by 4pm Thursday May 24.

Additionally, the EHL will be **closed** on Monday, May 28th in observance of Memorial Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **May 28-June 1** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Tuesday May 29, Wednesday May 30, and by noon on Thursday May 31.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Tuesday May 29, Wednesday May 30, Thursday May 31, and by noon on Friday Jun. 1.

- Slaughter samples (meat and sponge) will be accepted Tuesday May 29, Wednesday May 30, and by noon on Thursday May 31, however meat samples are pooled for efficiency, generally once a week.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Tuesday May 29 – Friday Jun. 1, however the testing will be conducted when samples are pooled for efficiency.
- Dairy testing is scheduled once a month, as usual, and is already scheduled for week of May 7th and week of June 4th.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research testing is scheduled once a month, and is already scheduled for week of May 29th.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, June 4, 2018.

Assistance is available with timing of samples collections, completion of submission forms, packaging, temperature requirements, shipping, and sample tracking. Sampling questions, planned sampling activities, and shipping notifications, can be made to DEC.EH-Lab-ShippingReceiving@alaska.gov or 907-375-8231.

Regards,



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