



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of Environmental
Conservation**

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Environmental Health Laboratory

5251 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.
Anchorage, Alaska 99507-1293
Main: 907.375.8200
Fax: 907.929.7335
www.dec.alaska.gov

October 17, 2018

RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of Nov. 12 – Nov. 16, 2018

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on Monday, November 12th in observance of Veterans' Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **Nov. 12-Nov. 16** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Tuesday Nov 13, Wednesday Nov. 14, and by noon on Thursday Nov. 15.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Tuesday Nov. 13, Wednesday Nov. 14, Thursday Nov. 15, and by noon on Friday Nov. 16.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted Tuesday Nov. 13-Friday Nov. 16, however meat samples are pooled for efficiency, and tested generally once a week.
- Slaughter sponge samples are good for 24 hours per USDA. Sponges will be accepted for testing Tuesday Nov. 13, Wednesday Nov. 14, and by noon Thursday Nov. 16, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Tuesday Nov. 13– Friday Nov. 16, 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 Nov. 13th.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research testing by HPLC/PCOX is scheduled once a month, and is next scheduled for week of November 5th.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, November 26, 2018 following the Thanksgiving holiday and mandatory furlough.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patryce D. McKinney".

Patryce D. McKinney, MBA
Chief, Environmental Health Laboratory