



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of Environmental
Conservation**

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Environmental Health Laboratory

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October 17, 2018

RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of Nov. 19 – Nov. 23, 2018

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on Thursday, November 22nd in observance of Thanksgiving Day. Additionally, the EHL will be **closed** on Friday, November 23rd as a designated furlough day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for that week must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Monday Nov. 19 and by noon on Tuesday Nov. 20.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Monday Nov. 19, Tuesday Nov. 20, and by noon on Wednesday Nov. 21.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted Monday Nov. 19-Wednesday Nov. 21, 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 Monday Nov. 19, and by noon Tuesday Nov. 20, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Monday Nov. 19 – Wednesday Nov. 21, however the testing will be conducted when samples are pooled for efficiency.
- Dairy testing is scheduled once a month, as usual, and is next scheduled for week of December 10th.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research testing by HPLC/PCOX is scheduled once a month, and is next scheduled for week of December 3rd.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, November 26, 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,

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

Patryce D. McKinney, MBA
Chief, Environmental Health Laboratory