

Department of Environmental Conservation



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Environmental Health Laboratory

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

August 20, 2020

RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of September 7-11, 2020

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on **Monday, September 7th** in observance of Labor Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **September 7-11** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Tuesday Sept. 8, Wednesday Sept. 9, and by noon on Thursday Sept. 10.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Tuesday Sept. 8, Wednesday Sept. 9, Thursday Sept. 10, and by noon on Friday Sept. 11.
- Wet Storage samples will be accepted on Tuesday Sept. 8 and by noon on Wednesday Sept. 9.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted Tuesday Sept. 8, Wednesday Sept. 9, and by noon on Thursday Sept. 10, however meat samples are pooled for efficiency, generally once a week.
- Slaughter sponge samples are good for 24 hours per USDA. Sponges will be accepted Tuesday Sept. 8, Wednesday Sept. 9, and by noon on Thursday Sept. 10, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Tuesday Sept. 8 – Friday Sept. 11, 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 the week of Sept. 8th.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research testing is scheduled minimum once a month, and is already scheduled for the weeks of August 31st and September 28th.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, September 14, 2020.

Assistance is available with timing of sample 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