



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental  
Conservation

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
Environmental Health Laboratory

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September 28, 2021

**RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of October 18-22, 2021**

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on **Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup>** in observance of Alaska Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **Oct. 18-Oct. 22** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Tuesday Oct. 19, Wednesday Oct. 20, and by noon on Thursday Oct. 21.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Tuesday Oct. 19, Wednesday Oct. 20, Thursday Oct. 21, and by noon on Friday Oct. 22.
- Wet Storage samples will be accepted on Tuesday Oct. 19 and by noon on Wednesday Oct. 20.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted Tuesday Oct. 19, Wednesday Oct. 20, and by noon on Thursday Oct. 21, 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 Oct. 19, Wednesday Oct. 20, and by noon on Thursday Oct. 21, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Tuesday Oct. 19– Friday Oct. 22, 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 Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research testing is scheduled approximately once a month and is next scheduled for the week of Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, Oct. 25, 2021.

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](mailto:DEC.EH-Lab-ShippingReceiving@alaska.gov) or 907-375-8231.

Regards,

Patryce D. McKinney, MBA  
Chief, Environmental Health Laboratory