



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental  
Conservation

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
Environmental Health Laboratory

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November 3, 2021

**RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of November 8-12, 2021**

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup> in observance of Veterans' Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **Nov. 8-Nov. 12** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Monday Nov. 8 and by noon Tuesday Nov. 9.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Monday Nov. 8, Tuesday Nov. 9, by noon Wednesday Nov. 10, and by noon on Friday Nov. 12.
- Wet Storage samples will be accepted by noon Monday Nov. 8.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted Monday Nov. 8, and by noon Tuesday Nov. 9, 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 Monday Nov. 8, and by noon Tuesday Nov. 9, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Monday Nov. 8 - Wednesday Nov. 10, and Friday Nov. 12, 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 Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research testing is scheduled approximately once a month and is next scheduled for the week of Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, Nov. 15, 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