



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Environmental
Conservation**

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Environmental Health Laboratory

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June 11, 2024

RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of July 1-5, 2024

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on Thursday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **July 1- July 5** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted by noon on Monday July 1 and by noon on Tuesday July 2.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Monday July 1, Tuesday July 2, by noon on Wednesday July 3, and by noon on Friday July 5.
- Wet Storage samples will be accepted by 3pm Monday July 1.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted Monday July 1 and by noon Tuesday July 2, 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 July 1 and by noon on Tuesday July 2, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Monday July 1– Wednesday July 3, and Friday July 5, however the testing will be conducted when samples are pooled for efficiency.
- Dairy testing is scheduled once a month, as usual, and is scheduled for the week of June 10 and then July 22.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research (PCOX) sample will be accepted Monday July 1– Wednesday July 3, and Friday July 5, however the testing will be as soon as possible given current backlog.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, July 8, 2024.

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,

Patryce D. McKinney, MBA
Chief, Environmental Health Laboratory