



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Environmental Health Laboratory

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October 3, 2024

RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of October 14-18, 2024

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on **Friday, October 18th** in observance of Alaska Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **October 14- October 18** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Monday October 14, Tuesday October 15, and by noon on Wednesday October 16.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Monday October 14, Tuesday October 15, Wednesday October 16, and by noon on Thursday October 17.
- Wet Storage samples will be accepted by 3pm Monday October 14.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted Monday October 14, Tuesday October 15, and by noon on Wednesday October 16, 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 October 14, Tuesday October 15, and by noon on Wednesday October 16, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Monday October 14– Thursday October 17, 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 October 7th.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research (PCOX) sample will be accepted Monday October 14– Thursday October 17, however the testing will be as soon as possible given current backlog.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, October 21, 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