



## Guidelines for Participants

While we recognize that testing your shellfish for contamination is more important than ever this year, it is imperative that you follow all public health guidance while participating in **State of the Oyster Study**.

First and foremost, educate yourself about the public health risks and make sure you are aware of local, state and federal guidelines for social distancing.

### Find local health authorities:

[doh.wa.gov](http://doh.wa.gov)  
[/AboutUs/PublicHealthSystem](#)  
[/LocalHealthJurisdictions](#)

### State guidelines:

[doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus](http://doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus)

### Federal guidelines:

[cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](http://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)

If you choose to participate in the **State of the Oyster Study**, we expect you to follow social distancing guidelines once you leave your property to drop your samples at the collection site. Below are some tips for how to successfully practice social distancing. While many of you participate with family members, most of the concerns and tips on the right about social distancing pertain to coming into contact with people outside of your household.

**State of the Oyster Study** invites you to join them to look at bacterial contamination on privately owned beaches in Hood Canal and Puget Sound.

Collection dates for the 2021 season are

**May 31 • June 27 • July 25 • August 22**

When possible, please send only one person to the **State of the Oyster Study** collection station.

On the **collection dates** only, collect six large oysters, four+ inches shell length, or 24 clams (six large oysters or 24 clams will be sufficient for both tests). Shellfish should only be harvested on the collection day. Prior day harvests invalidate the sampling results.

Package samples in the shell, in a heavy-duty, leak-proof bag. Keep samples on ice until delivered to drop off site. Each bag must be clearly marked with your name, collection site address, mailing address, phone number/e-mail. Attach payment and collection form in a separate waterproof bag, and enclose that in the sample bag. Prepare a separate complete form that will be dropped into a collection container, separate from the samples entering the cooler.

Samples will be tested for fecal coliform (\$25 per test) and/or *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* (\$40 per test). Please make sure to note which analysis you would like on your forms. Checks payable to AmTest Laboratories. You will receive results by phone 10 days after test dates.

### Social distancing requirements for 2021:

- Stay home if you feel sick or if anyone in your household is sick.
- Stay home if you are concerned about putting yourself, a family member or other site users at risk.
- If you begin to feel unwell on the way to a drop off location, go home immediately.
- Assume everyone you see is infected, including yourself, and use appropriate precautions.
- Drive by yourself, or only with other members of your household, to the sample collection location.
- Wear face coverings.
- When you arrive at either collection drop off station, if someone is at the station depositing their sample, please wait at least 6 feet away and approach once they have left the station.
- Wipe down the handles of the collection site cooler with a sanitizing wipe, open the cooler, deposit the sample, close the cooler and wipe down the cooler handles again and any other surfaces touched such as the lid.

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Samples with payment and collection forms may be dropped off at the following locations only on the dates listed above, from noon – 2:30 p.m.

- Hunter Farms – 1921 E. State Route 106, Union
  - QFC parking lot, under flag pole – pharmacy side  
201 NE State Route 300, Belfair
-

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Check# \_\_\_\_\_ Collection Date:  May 31  June 27  July 25  August 22  
Fecal coliform sample  (\$25.00)      Vibrio sample  (\$40.00)  
Collection address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address \_\_\_\_\_

For more information, contact  
Teri King, [wsgcanal@uw.edu](mailto:wsgcanal@uw.edu),  
360.432.3054



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