



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Aquaculture & Laboratory Services



Bryan P. Hurlburt
Commissioner

David H. Carey
Director

December 3, 2020

Westport Weston Health District
Marc A. R. Cooper, MPH, RS; Director of Health
180 Bayberry Lane
Westport, CT 06880

RE: Reclassification of shellfish growing areas in Westport, CT

Mr. Cooper,

The Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture is required to reevaluate shellfish growing area classifications in the State on an annual basis, in order to accurately reflect the appropriate designated use of the area and remain in compliance with the requirements of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP).

The following shellfish growing areas in Westport are being reclassified effective December 31, 2020:

- A portion of the Westport Approved and Conditionally Approved areas off of the Saugatuck River has been reclassified as Conditionally Approved. The bacteriological water quality at the stations monitoring this area no longer meet fecal coliform standards for an Approved shellfish growing area. These stations meet Approved standards operating with a 1.0 inch rainfall trigger under the conditions when the area would be open for harvest;
- A portion of the Westport Approved area between Sherwood Point and Frost Point has been downgraded to Conditionally Approved. The bacteriological water quality at the stations monitoring this area no longer meet fecal coliform standards for an Approved shellfish growing area. These stations meet Approved standards operating with a 1.5 inch rainfall trigger under the conditions when the area would be open for harvest. The area monitored by these stations will included in the Westport portion of the Darien-Norwalk-Westport Conditionally Approved area #1.

For additional information on the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) requirements for classifying shellfish growing areas please see the NSSP Model Ordinance Chapter IV. Shellfish Growing Areas@.02 Microbiological Standards and @.03 Growing Area Classification.

<https://www.fda.gov/media/143238/download>

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These changes become effective December 31, 2020. A legal notice has been written which will be placed in the local newspaper announcing this change. A copy of the written description of the current classifications and all relevant maps are attached. Copies of the new classification descriptions for the shellfish growing areas in Westport are being provided to the United States Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the Town Clerk of Westport.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Alissa Dragan

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