



MARYLAND
Department of Health

2026 Declaration of Summer Harvest Landing Location

LEASE # _____

The National Shellfish Sanitation Program Model Ordinance dictates the safe handling of shellfish for human consumption. In order to comply with the requirements of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program and decrease the risk of illness, Maryland has developed a *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* (*V.p.*) Control Plan. *V.p.* illness is caused by the consumption of raw molluscan shellfish (clams and oysters) infected with this bacterium. Maryland's *V.p.* Control Plan requires leaseholders engaged in the summertime harvest of shellfish to implement certain control measures.

From June 1 through Sept. 30, a Shellfish Aquaculture Harvester Permittee, Registrant, or other individual acting under the authority of the Permittee is required to:

1. Protect harvested oysters from direct sun by providing shade over the area where the harvested oysters are stored;
2. Maintain air flow to the area where the harvested oysters are stored;
3. Designate a **single** site in Maryland for landing the harvested oysters;
4. Document the harvest start time, **time the first oysters are removed from the water**, on a harvest trip record or harvest tag; and
5. Deliver harvested oysters to a dealer (licensed and certified by the Maryland Department of Health) for immediate placement under temperature control by the following times on the day of harvest:

11:30 a.m.	June 1 – June 30
10:30 a.m.	July 1 – Aug. 31
12:30 p.m.	Sept. 1 – Sept. 30

To comply with item 3 above, from June 1 through Sept. 30, you must land your product at a **SINGLE** site and provide the location of your **SINGLE** landing site to the Department of Natural Resources. You may not land harvested oysters at any other site. Please list the landing site below and **SIGN** the form. If no harvest will take place, please indicate that by checking the box and **SIGNING** the form.

If **HARVEST WILL OCCUR BETWEEN JUNE 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2026**, list your single landing location on the line below and sign the form:

Waterway

and

Street address of ramp/marina/private pier

City, State, Zip Code

OR

If **NO HARVEST WILL OCCUR** between June 1 and Sept. 30, 2026, check below and sign:

☐ I acknowledge that no harvest will take place from this lease from June 1 – Sept. 30, 2026.*

Signature of Leaseholder /Authorized Business Signatory

Date

*The above times are Subject to change upon release of 2026 Vibrio Control Plan. If you wish to change your summer harvesting status or location after submitting this report, a signed declaration of your new or revised single landing location for a specific lease number must be **received in writing** by the Department of Natural Resources no later than May 1, 2026.