

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## **Division of Marine Fisheries**

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400 Boston, Massachusetts 02114 (617) 626-1520 fax (617) 626-1509



Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary
Ronald S. Amidon
Commissioner
Mary-Lee King

Deputy Commissioner

April 2, 2018

MarineFisheries Advisory

## PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION AND TRAINING REGARDING 2018 VP CONTROL PLAN FOR OYSTERS

Four public meetings have been scheduled to solicit comments and provide information on the **2018 Massachusetts** *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* (*Vp*) *Control Plan for Oysters*. No changes to the plan or implementing regulations are being proposed for the 2018 season, but all aquaculturists and wild harvesters who commercially harvest oysters between May 19 and October 19 are encouraged to attend. The meetings will include a recap of the 2017 *Vp* control season and a review of the *Vp* control plan and implementing regulations.

The *Vp* Control Plan is intended to control the post-harvest growth of *Vp* bacteria in oysters to prevent *Vp* related illnesses. The plan was developed by the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game, Division of Marine Fisheries and the Department of Public Health, Bureau of Environmental Health, Food Protection Program in conjunction with the Massachusetts shellfish industry in order to protect public health and comply with the requirements of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.

## **Industry Vibrio Outreach Public Meeting Schedule**

10AM

Tuesday, April 24, 2018
Barnstable County Complex
Harborview Room
3195 Main St., Barnstable, MA 02630

2:30PM Wednesday, April 25, 2018 Tisbury Town Hall Katharine Cornell Theather 51 Spring St., Tisbury, MA 02568 9AM Wednesday, April 25, 2018 Plymouth Public Library Otto Fellow Room 132 South St., Plymouth, MA 02360

11AM
Thursday, April 26, 2018
Eastham Town Hall
Earl Mountain Room
2500 State Hwy, Eastham, MA 02651

For more information contact Christopher Schillaci at the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries via email at <a href="mailto:chris.schillaci@state.ma.us">chris.schillaci@state.ma.us</a> or by phone at 508-742-9760.