



MAURA T. HEALEY
Governor

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

(617) 626-1520 | www.mass.gov/marinefisheries



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Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

July 19, 2024

Town of Yarmouth Selectboard
C/O Robert L. Whritenour
Town Administrator
South Yarmouth, MA 02664

Barnstable Town Council
C/O Mark S. Ells
Town Administrator
Barnstable, MA 02601

Dear Mr. Whritenour and Mr. Ells,

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) has notified the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) of an outbreak of *Campylobacter jejuni* illnesses linked to oysters harvested from the Lewis Bay (SC28) shellfish growing area in the towns of Barnstable and Yarmouth. Oysters linked to two confirmed and two unconfirmed illnesses were harvested on July 1st and 3rd, 2024 and consumed raw on July 4, 2024.

Under the requirements of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program Model Ordinance, when shellfish are implicated in an illness outbreak and there is no evidence of illegal harvest from a closed area or post-harvest contamination the Shellfish Control Authority must immediately place the harvest area in the closed status. Therefore, the status of Lewis Bay (SC28) was changed to **"Closed to Shellfishing"** at **1:30 PM on July 18, 2024.**

Under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, section 74A, the status of the below-defined area has been changed to **"Closed to Shellfishing"** to the taking of all shellfish. Digging, harvesting or collecting and/or attempting to dig, harvest or collect shellfish and the possession of shellfish from the below-defined area is prohibited.

Under authority of 322 CMR 7.01(7) all permits issued thereunder are hereby conditioned to prohibit the taking, selling or possession of shellfish from the below-defined area.

SC28 Lewis Bay

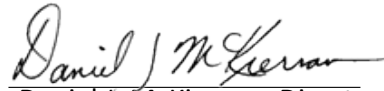
"The waters, flats and all tributaries of Lewis Bay in the Towns of Barnstable and Yarmouth, northeasterly of a line drawn from the southern end of Dunbar Point in the Town of Barnstable to the northern tip of Smith Point in the Town of Yarmouth."

Individual shellfish growing area definition boundaries are mapped on the Division's website at [Shellfish classification areas | Mass.gov](#).

The preceding area will remain closed until examined by the Division and notification is made that the area has been placed in the open status.

DPH and DMF are continuing to investigate the shellfish growing area conditions of Lewis Bay (SC28) as well as the harvest and handling practices associated with the implicated oysters. Please contact Christian Petitpas (christian.petitpas@mass.gov) for additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. McKiernan".

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

CC: P. Moran, C. Baker, MEP
R. Glenn, C. Petitpas, M. Camisa, W. Castonguay, T. O'Neil, H. Williams, DMF
M. Moore, E. Hickey, DPH
A. Croteau, Barnstable Shellfish Constable
C. Healy, Yarmouth Shellfish Constable
U.S.FDA
Massachusetts Aquaculture Association