



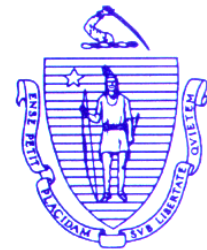
Paul J. Diodati  
Director

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

1213 Purchase St. 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
New Bedford, MA 02740

(508)990-2860  
fax (508)990-0449



Deval Patrick  
Governor  
Maeve Vallely Barlett  
Secretary  
Mary B. Griffin  
Commissioner

November 3rd, 2014

### **PUBLIC MEETINGS SCHEDULED TO SOLICIT INDUSTRY FEEDBACK PRIOR TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2015 *VIBRIO PARAHAEMOLYTICUS* CONTROL PLAN FOR OYSTERS**

Four public meetings have been scheduled to solicit industry feedback for the development of the 2015 **Massachusetts *Vibrio Parahaemolyticus* (V.p.) Control Plan for Oysters**. The meetings will include a recap of the 2014 *V.p.* control season, followed by a feedback session to collect industry input for the development of the 2015 **Massachusetts *Vibrio Parahaemolyticus* (V.p.) Control Plan for Oysters**.

The National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) requires member states with a history of *V.p.* illness to develop and implement a plan to control post-harvest growth of *V.p.* bacteria in oysters. The NSSP also requires the annual submission of an evaluation on the effectiveness of the control plan and requires states to modify the control plan when the evaluation shows elements of the plan are ineffective or there is a continued occurrence of *V.p.* illness. The 2015 *V.p.* Control Plan for Oysters will be developed by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Environmental Health, Food Protection Program, and the Division of Marine Fisheries with input from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Massachusetts oyster industry. **Official public comment will take place in early 2015 following the completion of a draft 2015 *V.p.* Control Plan**; the November industry feedback sessions are designed to aid in the development of that draft.

#### **Public Meeting Schedule**

**Monday, November 17 at Eastham Town Hall- Earl Mountain Room. 2500 State Hwy Eastham, MA 02642. From 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.**

**Monday, November 17 at Plymouth Public Library- Otto Fehlow Room. 132 South Street Plymouth, MA 02360. From 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM.**

**Thursday, November 20 at Cape Cod Community College- Lecture Hall A. 2240 Iyannough Road West Barnstable, MA 02668. From 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM.**

**Monday, November 24 at Vineyard Haven Public Library. 200 Main St Vineyard Haven, MA 02568. From 1:15 PM - 3:15 PM.**

For further information regarding this meeting please contact Chris Schillaci (508) 990-2860 ext. 138 ; [Christopher.schillaci@state.ma.us](mailto:Christopher.schillaci@state.ma.us)