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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
22 COALING STATION LANE
LAMOINE, MAINE
04605

PATRICK KELIHER
COMMISSIONER

February 1, 2016

Dear Certified Dealer,

Licensing and certification should be interesting this year since it is an entirely new online application process. Our Sanitation Inspection division will no longer process paper applications for certifications or permits (wet storage, bulk tagging, and buying stations), those applications will be done through the online process. The application forms for certifications and permits have been removed from the Public Health-Forms webpage: http://www.maine.gov/dmr/rm/public_health/forms/index.htm

Please go to the DMR Licensing website at: <http://www.maine.gov/dmr/license/index.htm> and follow the instructions for application. If the online system is not working yet, you may download application forms or call the phone number listed there. Please follow the instructions listed on this page to obtain your licenses. Don't let this scare you! If you are renewing all the same licenses and certifications as last year, there will be a checkbox for that to make it easy.

In addition to your sanitation certificate application, you must submit the following if it applies to you:

- If you have had any plumbing changed, installed (new) or moved, please submit a copy of the plumbing inspector's report to your DMR shellfish inspector.
- If you have had your well water tested by a lab other than a DMR lab, please submit a copy of the results to your DMR shellfish inspector. Outside laboratories must be certified by the State Lab Evaluation process and be included in the list found on this website: <http://www.informe.org/hetl/>

Certification inspections can begin in February. Please complete your online application as soon as possible. Inspections for certification will only occur if you complete your application(s). Another change in the licensing division is that the Limited Wholesale Shellfish Harvester's license is no longer available. If you held that license last year you will have to upgrade to a Wholesale Seafood license this year.

By now you should all be sending a Shipping Temperature Compliance document along with each shipment of shellstock when it leaves your facility. This is the documentation that shows the date and time the truck was loaded for shipment and that the truck was chilled to less than 45 degrees before loading. Some of you are including this information on the bill of lading so you don't have to send an extra document, that's ok. Remember that the temperature you list of that form is the temperature *inside the truck* just prior to loading, ***not the temperature of your cooler!***

<http://www.Maine.gov>

PHONE: (207) 667-5654 – Public Health
PHONE: (207) 667-3373 – Marine Patrol

FAX: (207) 664-0592
FAX: (207) 667-3972

For questions about HACCP classes, contact Melissa Libby at 581-2788 or melissa.libby1@maine.edu. You may also take the online course at: <http://seafoodhaccp.cornell.edu/Intro/index.html>.

The website for the **Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference (ISSC)** is www.issc.org, where you can find a lot of information and the latest **National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish 2013 Revision**. (commonly called the “Model Ordinance”). The Guide is also available on FDA’s web site through the following link:

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FederalStateFoodPrograms/ucm2006754.htm?source=govdelivery>

The **Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002** (the Bioterrorism Act) requires domestic and foreign facilities that manufacture, process, pack, or hold food for human or animal consumption in the United States to register with the FDA. For more information, please go to the following website: <http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FoodFacilityRegistration/default.htm>.

The Department has an updated Compilation of Shellfish Laws & Regulations available online at: <http://www.maine.gov/dmr/lawsandregs/regs/index.htm> and is in .PDF format. The document is titled: **Shellfish Laws and Regulations as of November 2014- pdf file, 204 pages, 2.8 mb**, and is found at the bottom of the web page.

It is a requirement in your HACCP monitoring to verify that you are buying from certified dealers. The Interstate Certified Shellfish Shipper’s List (ICSSL) is no longer published and mailed to you monthly. The FDA maintains the ICSSL online at:

<http://www.fda.gov/food/guidanceregulation/federalstatefoodprograms/ucm2006753.htm>

There is a current list there as well as copies of older lists and a place to subscribe to a list serve.

Maine DMR also maintains its own on-line shippers list. The list is updated within 24 hours of any changes and will help dealers who are required to verify information under the HACCP regulations. The list is used by dealers, retail markets and restaurants in Maine and other states; and even by establishments in Canada. You can find this list at: www.maine.gov/dmr/rm/public_health/certified_dealers.htm. Additionally, we send out alerts to regulatory agencies and those dealers that we have e-mail addresses for, in order to notify you of any short-term or mid-month cancellations/suspensions of certification.

One last reminder: Your dealer license will expire on March 31, 2016 and your Shellfish Certificate expires May 31, 2016. You will be in violation if either one is not current.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 207-592-8934.

Sincerely,

John Fendl
Seafood Technology Supervisor
john.fendl@maine.gov