



Potomac River Fisheries Commission

MARYLAND - VIRGINIA
"Potomac River Compact of 1958"



ORDER #2025-16 (replaces #2024-21)

Molluscan Shellfish Compliance with NSSP Model Ordinance Requirements

THE POTOMAC RIVER FISHERIES COMMISSION, for the purpose of protecting the health of the public that consumes shellfish harvested from the Potomac River, and pursuant to its authority under Regulation II, Section 2(b), finds it necessary to comply with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish, (by the most current version):

HEREBY DECLARES AND ORDERS: That, except as specifically hereinafter provided otherwise, the provisions of the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) *10.15.07.01* and Virginia Administrative Code *Chapter 4 VAC 20-1230-31*, as amended from time to time, are hereby incorporated by reference.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED: That a shellfish harvester shall:

- (1) Harvest in accordance with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program Model Ordinance incorporated by reference in COMAR 10.15.07.01A; and,
- (2) From May 1 through October 31:
 - a) Protect harvested oysters from direct sun by providing shade over the area where the harvested oysters are stored;
 - b) Maintain air flow to the area where the harvested oysters are stored;
 - c) Document the harvest start time, which is the time the first oysters are removed from the water, on a harvest trip record or harvest tag; and
 - d) Provide the harvest time record as required in Section 2(c) of this Order to a dealer on delivery.
- (3) Shellfish harvesters shall conform to the curfew restrictions of the State where their harvested shellfish are landed.

AND IT IS FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED: this Order #2025-16 shall become effective June 16, 2025 and remain in effect until further notice.