



## Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Aquaculture

P.O. Box 97, 190 Rogers Avenue, Milford, CT 06460

203-874-0696 | [Agri.Aquaculture@ct.gov](mailto:Agri.Aquaculture@ct.gov)



# Shell Recovery Application

All entities are required to comply with the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Aquaculture (DoAG) [Guidance for Shell Recovery Operations in Connecticut](#) (hereafter referred to as the “Shell Recovery Guidance”). No shell can be collected, stored, cured, or planted without the explicit approval of the DoAG. This Shell Recovery Application is used to establish Shell Recovery Programs. The Oyster Habitat Restoration Application is used to authorize planting of cured shell in Long Island Sound or its tributaries. All entities are required to complete this application process prior to commencing any activities.

### DoAG Requirements:

- The DoAG reviews and provides comments on shell recovery applications to facilitate the applicant in locating an appropriate site for their operation and successful project implementation. Local land use boards and/or regional/local health departments have a role in approving shell recovery as it pertains to local regulations.
- The applicant must complete this Shell Recovery Application in its entirety, including finalized standard operating procedures as required below. Each proposal will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- Authorized Shell Recovery Programs are prohibited from collecting shell from the European Union.
- Shell must be cured at authorized locations for a minimum of 6 months before it can be planted.
- The completion of this Shell Recovery Application and authorization by DoAG does not permit planting cured shell in Long Island Sound.

### DEEP Requirements:

- Applicants who are proposing shell collection at municipal transfer stations, leaf composting sites or a landfill must meet the regulatory requirements outlined in the facilities applicable permits administered by DEEP and the Shell Recovery Guidance.
- If any of the proposed shell recovery activities will be co-located at a regulated solid waste facility, the applicant will be required to contact DEEP and fill out a pre-application questionnaire. Further, activities may require permitting under DEEP’s Industrial Stormwater Program, therefore it is best practice for all proposals within DEEP permitted sites to fill out a pre-application questionnaire. See link to [Pre-Application Assistance Fact Sheet](#).
- Additional requirements are outlined in the Shell Recovery Guidance.



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## Shell Recovery Application

**Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Full name) (Phone number) (Email)

**Entity:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Town, scientific, educational, non-profit, etc.)

**Source(s) of shell:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Shell must be sourced from shellfish harvested within the United States due to concerns about Oyster herpesvirus being introduced from shellfish imported from the European Union.*

**Shell collection:** Please attach a standard operating procedure (SOP) for all aspects of shell collection and include a preliminary schedule and detailed procedures for the sanitary operation of the program. Applicants must address all requirements, and may address the additional considerations as necessary, outlined in the Shell Recovery Guidance.

*\*Once authorized, Shell Recovery Programs must notify DoAG if they will be adding pickup locations at new restaurant, markets, or institutions, or seasonally collecting at large events like shellfish festivals. It is critical that programs develop slowly to ensure they have adequate staff and equipment to meet routine pickup, sanitation, and curing requirements, while prevent nuisances.*

**Shell transportation:** Please attach a SOP for all aspects of shell transportation. Applicants must address all requirements, and may address the additional considerations as necessary, outlined in the Shell Recovery Guidance.

Proposed **Location(s) of shell processing** (including coordinates): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Locations that do not meet the requirements outlined in the Shell Recovery Guidance for runoff control or distance to surface and drinking water sources will be rejected.*

**Shell cure pile maintenance:** Please attach a SOP describing how cure piles will be maintenance to avoid nuisances. Applicants must address all requirements, and may address the additional considerations as necessary, outlined in the Shell Recovery Guidance.



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**Sanitation station:** Please attach a SOP describing the location with potable water for equipment sanitation (containers and vehicles); a sanitation schedule; and prevention of discharge to surface waters, wetlands or to the ground. Applicants must address all requirements, and may address the additional considerations as necessary, outlined in the Shell Recovery Guidance.

Identify the **end users** of the shell: \_\_\_\_\_

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*If the applicant is also the end user, they must complete an Oyster Habitat Restoration Application prior to planting any shell in Long Island Sound or its tributaries. If an end user is not identified, the applicant must consult with DoAG to transfer the shell to an end user.*

Please attached all **written agreements** between the applicant and EACH partner or subcontractor involved with shell collection, shell transportation, shell curing, and sanitation.

Identify **emergency contacts** who have knowledge of all aspects of the program, and unlimited access to all equipment and supplies, including transportation, necessary to maintain program operations in a timely manner: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Please attach your contingency plan, which outlines how the program will continue normal operations to accommodate for members having emergencies preventing them from completing their outlined responsibilities on schedule.*

***Incomplete applications will be rejected by DoAG. Applicants that propose to collect shell at any DEEP permitted facilities, including municipal transfer stations, leaf composting sites, or landfills, are required to complete the separate application, review, and approval process with DEEP, as outlined in the Shell Recovery Guidance.***

I hereby attest that the above information is true, and agree to abide by all DoAG and DEEP regulations as they pertain to shell collection, transportation, and curing. I attest that I will follow all SOPs and schedules, as provided in my application, to support the successful implementation of the proposed shell recovery program and to minimize negative impacts to the environment. I understand that failing to meet any one of the regulations could result in the revocation of my Shell Recovery Certificate and a financial penalty in accordance with State Statute.

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