2022 SUMMARY OF Vp CONTROL MEASURES FOR DIGGERS
These Requirements Apply to All Diggers

Shading of Shellfish: All shellfish must be shaded at all times during the period May 1 – October 31; this applies to shellfish onboard the harvest vessel and during transport in any boat, vehicle or other means of conveyance, from the harvest area to the original dealer.

Tagging of Shellfish and Time of Harvest: Shellfish harvester tags must include the time of harvest for all shellfish taken (time of harvest begins when the first shellstock is taken from the water). Time of harvest must be written in indelible ink on each tag and the tag must be affixed to the container prior to the placement of any shellfish into the container. Once a container has been completely filled as intended, a new time of harvest begins when the next lot of shellfish is removed from the water. All shellfish tags must be fully completed prior to leaving the area of harvest.

NOTE: All shellfish harvested from LS1 east of Eatons Neck Point must be tagged or labeled LS1 East.

Self-Draining Containers and Ice Slurry: Shellfish may not be placed or held in containers that are not self-draining; they cannot sit in standing or stagnant water; except for placement in an ice slurry for rapid cooling when temperature of the ice slurry is less than or equal to 45°F (7.2°C). Water used for the ice slurry must come from the certified area where shellfish were taken. Any ice used must be drinking water quality or from an approved source.

Log Books: Shellfish harvesters must maintain a daily harvest log which includes: common name of shellfish harvested, quantities (net weights, numerical counts or standard measures) of shellfish harvested, the harvest date, an identification of the areas from which shellfish were harvested, time of harvest, and the names and permit numbers of all purchasers of shellfish (identify disposition of shellfish sold). The log must be completed prior to landing on a daily basis and made available to the Department or an environmental officer upon request.

Daily Harvest: All shellfish must be delivered to a certified dealer in Suffolk or Nassau County on the same day of harvest.

Oyster Harvesting: All oysters harvested from any certified shellfish lands for food consumption between the dates of May 1 through September 30, both dates inclusive, must be immediately culled and maintained under temperature control through icing, mechanical refrigeration maintained at 33°F (0.6°C) to 45°F (7.2°C) or other cooling method approved by the Department upon commencement of time of harvest.

- Time of harvest begins when each lot of oysters is taken from the water and no longer submerged. Time of harvest must be written in indelible ink on each tag and the tag must be affixed to the container prior to the placement of any oysters into the container.
- All oysters shall be immediately culled and maintained under temperature control (cooling) throughout the harvest day once the time of harvest (start of harvest) begins. Once a container has been completely filled as intended, a new time of harvest begins when the next lot of shellfish is removed from the water.

**These Requirements Apply to Harvest of Oysters and Hard Clams Under a Vp Control Plan Only**

- Harvest Areas: NS1, NS2, NS3 and that portion of LS1, lying west of Eatons Neck Point (Town of Huntington)
- Time Period: Effective May 1 – September 30

Time of Harvest, Tagging and Time-Temperature Controls (Cooling): Hard clams and oysters harvested for food consumption must be immediately culled and placed under temperature control (icing, mechanical refrigeration maintained at 33°F (0.6°C) to 45°F (7.2°C) or other cooling method approved by the Department) upon commencement of time of harvest.

- Time of harvest begins when hard clams or oysters are taken from the water and no longer submerged. Time of harvest must be written in indelible ink on each tag and the tag must be affixed to the container prior to the placement of any hard clams and/or oysters into the container.
- All oysters and/or hard clams must be immediately culled and maintained under temperature control (cooling) throughout the harvest day once the time of harvest (start of harvest) begins. Once a container has been completely filled as intended, a new time of harvest begins when the next lot of shellfish is removed from the water.

Tagging for LS1 (East and West): Shellfish harvested in that portion of LS1, west of Eatons Neck Point must be designated as LS1 west and those shellfish taken from that portion of LS1, east of Eatons Neck Point must be labeled LS1 east; no commingling of LS1 east and LS1 west product is allowed.

Internal Temperature at Sale to Original Dealer: Oysters and hard clams must be cooled to an internal temperature of 60°F or less prior to sale to the original dealer.