

# THANK YOU 2021 MARINE BIOTOXIN VOLUNTEERS

Marine Biotoxin volunteers are assigned a recreational shellfish harvesting beach or collect samples from placed mussel cages where they work in teams to gather shellfish samples throughout the summer.



Marine Biotoxin teammates Judi Rogers, Phil Latendresse, & Barbara Bond Howard gather monthly mussel samples at the Anacortes Marina. Samples are tested by the State Health Dept. lab for Paralytic (PSP) & Diarrhetic (DSP) Shellfish poison.

The Skagit Conservation District, Skagit County Public Health, and the Washington State Dept. of Health would like to give special thanks to the 38 community volunteers that participated in the Marine Biotoxin Volunteer program this year.

Barbara Baker	Blaine McCoy
Darrel Baker	Bryanne McNamara
Barbara Bond-Howard	Virginia Naef
DeVere Bunke	Janet Nevitt,
Dave Crockett	Shawn Nixon,
Paul Dixon	Gil Ormbrek,
Elizabet Drozda-Freeman	Bill Rogers,
Claudia Ebsworth	Judi Rogers,
Cissy Fisher	Keith Rubin,
Suzanne Hahn	Mark Shinkle,
Merrilee Harrell	Michelle Taylor,
Casey Hart	Tamera Taylor,
Donna Helgeson	Barry Unema,
Annalise Hill	Colene Unema,
Diana Hoffman	Paul Vance,
Stephanie Kaufman	Pat Wedul,
Phil Latendresse	Strand Wedul,
Sue Latendresse	Gail Williams
Ted Maloney	Sarah Zabel

It is through their active participation that we are able to protect the health of community residents and visitors. The goal of the Marine Biotoxin Volunteer Program is to provide an early public health warning of shellfish toxicity by routinely assessing our local recreational shellfish harvesting beaches for the presence of Paralytic Shellfish Poison (PSP) and Diarrhetic Shellfish Poison (DSP).

**How can I protect my family from paralytic shellfish poisoning?**

Before harvesting any kind of shellfish, call the Marine Biotoxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 or visit the web page at: <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/biotoxin/biotoxin.html>

to find out what recreational areas are closed due to PSP or DSP. Do not expect beaches to be marked with a sign. For information about the Marine Biotoxin Volunteer Monitoring program, contact Kristi Carpenter at 360-428-4313 ext. 1018 or email [kristi@skagitcd.org](mailto:kristi@skagitcd.org)