



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

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#### **Shellfish growing waters closed**

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The Alabama Department of Public Health has closed all shellfish growing waters in Mobile and Baldwin counties. Areas I, II, III and IV are closed: this includes Cedar Point, Portersville Bay, Grand Bay, Heron Bay, Dauphin Island Bay and Bon Secour Bay.

The order by State Health Officer, Dr. Donald Williamson, closes harvesting as of 4 p.m. on Oct. 18, 2005. The order is issued as a result of the presence of red tide cells (*Karenia brevis*) exceeding standards in shellfish growing waters.

The Alabama Department of Public Health will continue to monitor bay waters and the shellfish. Harvesting can be resumed as soon as areas meet acceptable red tide criteria.

For additional information concerning the closure, contact Dr. Lewis A. Byrd, Alabama Department of Public Health, at (251) 432-7618.

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