**Marine Fisheries**

**Depuration Permit**

**What Activities Require This Permit?** Taking of clams or oysters from public or private prohibited (polluted) waters for depurating purposes.

**What Is The Purpose of This Permit?** To identify licensed North Carolina clam or oyster dealers who harvest clams or oysters from polluted waters for the purpose of depuration.

**Who Issues This Permit?** N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, Habitat Enhancement and Protection Section.

**How Much Will This Permit Cost?** No cost.

**What Are My Payment Options for Permit Application Fees?** Not applicable.

**If Paying by Check, Who do I Make the Check Payable to and Where Do I Send the Check?** Not applicable.

**Where Can I Get The Application For This Permit?** N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, Habitat Enhancement and Protection Section, Morehead City office.

**How Long Will It Take To Review My Application?** Up to two weeks.

**Where Do I Submit My Application?** N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, Habitat Enhancement and Protection Section, 3441 Arendell Street, PO Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557-0769.

**How Long Is My Permit or License or Certificate Valid?** One year from date of issuance.

**Notes/Comments:** The taking of clams or oysters from the public or private prohibited (polluted) waters of the state for the purpose of depuration is unlawful, except when the harvest will utilize shellfish that would otherwise be destroyed in maintenance dredging operations.

**Legal Authority/Statute Reference:** General Statute 113-134; NC Fisheries Rules for Coastal Waters 15A NCAC 3K .0107, 3O .0501.

**Link:** [http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries](http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries)

**Statewide Contact Information:**
NC Division of Marine Fisheries
Habitat Enhancement and Protection Section
3441 Arendell Street
Morehead City, NC 28557
Telephone: (252) 726-7021 or 1-800-682-2632