



LSU Health
NEW ORLEANS

Save the Date



"Vibrios in Louisiana and Beyond"

Presentation by: Dr. Crystal Johnson

Associate Professor

Department of Environmental Sciences

College of the Coast and Environment

Louisiana State University

Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Time: Noon - 1:00 PM

Room: LEC 303 or Zoom

Refreshments will be provided



Zoom



Vibrios are bacteria that occur naturally in estuarine and marine environments. Although these autochthonous microbes are known to be influenced by water temperature and salinity, other environmental factors associated with vibrio abundance and distribution are key to their prediction. Densities of *Vibrio vulnificus* (Vv) containing *vvh* (Vv hemolysin) and of *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* (Vp) containing *tlh* (thermolabile hemolysin, found ubiquitously in Vp), *tdh* (thermostable direct hemolysin, Vp pathogenicity factor), and *trh* (*tdh*-related hemolysin, Vp pathogenicity factor) were measured in water, oysters, and sediment on the coasts of Louisiana, Mississippi, Maryland, and Washington. From 2009 to 2023, Vp and Vv densities in water, oysters, and sediment varied with sea surface temperature, salinity, turbidity, and other environmental factors, and these were used to model vibrio densities. Long-term vibrio data from coastal Louisiana's oysters are being used to predict environmental conditions favorable for these human pathogens.