

Wellfleet Shellfish Department





300 Main Street, Wellfleet, Massachusetts 02667

Date: October 5, 2020

To: Shellfish Advisory Board

From: Nancy Civetta, Shellfish Constable

Re: Annual Review of Shellfish Permit Fees

Dear SAB members,

Each year, the Selectboard asks its advisory boards and departments to review the fees it charges for permits, stickers, services, etc. Because 2021 shellfishing permits will go on sale December 1, 2020, it is important for you to review fees and make recommendations to the Selectboard whether you think there should be changes or not, with details on how, if so, in ample time for the Selectboard to hold a public hearing and then update the regulations and do the public outreach necessary to inform 2021 permit purchasers.

To that end, here are the current fees for recreational and commercial shellfishing permits. Fees were last increased on April 12, 2016, although on September 8, 2020, additions were made to include Mass. veterans and Town of Wellfleet employees at resident level fees for recreational shellfishing permits.

5.2.2. Noncommercial Permit Fee Schedule (amended 09/08/2020)

| Annual Permits (Jan.1-Dec. 31) | |
|---|--------|
| Resident or Taxpayer | 60.00 |
| Resident or Taxpayer over 65 years old | 20.00 |
| Nonresident or Nontaxpayer | 210.00 |
| Massachusetts Resident Veteran Permit* | 60.00 |
| Massachusetts Resident Veteran Permit over 65 years old * | 20.00 |
| Town of Wellfleet Employee | 60.00 |
| Town of Wellfleet Employee over 65 years old | 20.00 |
| Eel Permit | 3.00 |
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Phone (508) 349-0325



Fax (508) 349-0305

| Seasonal Noncommercial Permits (June 1 – Sept. 30) | |
|--|-------|
| Resident or Taxpayer | 40.00 |
| Non-resident or Non-taxpayer | 85.00 |
| Massachusetts Resident Veteran Permit* | 40.00 |
| Town of Wellfleet employee | 40.00 |
| Replacement Fee (for all categories) | 20.00 |

^{*}To enjoy the Massachusetts Veteran Discount, applicants must provide:

- 1. A Massachusetts license bearing the Veteran seal,
- 2. A Massachusetts license and a DD-214 form
- 3. A Massachusetts license and a Veteran ID card issued by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs

6.1.3. Commercial Permit Fee Schedule (amended 04/12/16)

| Resident | \$310.00 |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Senior Resident (65 years or older) | 60.00 |
| Junior Resident (14-16 years old) | 110.00 |
| Eel Permit | 3.00 |
| Replacement Fee (for all categories) | 20.00 |

The Shellfish Department has made great strides in its propagation program, and we are very happy with the efforts made and the results we are getting – truly something to celebrate – and certainly we are hearing very positive feedback from both recreational and commercial harvesters. But admittedly, we still have quite a bit of catching up to do from years of underfunding and not enough attention being paid to propagation, so we do see the need to continue increasing our efforts using diverse solutions to grow the department's propagation program over the next three-five years.

In short, we have made great strides, but we are not at our peak yet. However, the establishment of a revolving fund for propagation also means that 75% of all permit and grant fee revenues go into our propagation coffers to give us the funds to improve our efforts. Please take all of this into consideration as you discuss and vote on 2021 shellfishing permit fees during your October 6, 2020, meeting.

Thank you,

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Nancy Civetta, Shellfish Constable