

## WOA Communtiy Grant Application

### Project Narrative

The Town of Wellfleet is currently working on a project to purchase and install a public-use ice machine in town (location TBD). Funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for one ice machine unit has been appropriated, but more grants are being sought to fund additional equipment and installation expenses.

The Shellfish Advisory Board, the Select Board, and the Town Administration have been working to support this project, with a particular emphasis on ice being a necessary requirement for the harvest of oysters during Vibrio Control Season. As you know, Wellfleet is a top oyster producer in the state, and all oysters harvested during Vibrio Control Season are required to be iced after harvest to comply with DMF regulations and to help prevent the growth of bacteria which is a public health concern. As a result, ice is in high demand during the spring and summer months, and while some harvesters have their own ice machines; other harvesters and recreational shellfish harvesters often have to rely on ice from other sources.

We believe that a public-use high-capacity town ice machine would help ensure that all harvesters can have access to a reliable source of clean ice to safely and efficiently bring their oysters to market. This is especially important since if there were to be multiple cases of Vibrio that were traced back to Wellfleet, there is the potential of the state closing the harvest of Wellfleet oysters for an indefinite period, which would have a severe negative impact on the Wellfleet economy.

We hope that the Wellfleet Oyster Alliance, which has long been a generous supporter of the Wellfleet shellfishing community, can provide a grant to the Town of Wellfleet to help get this important project to the finish line.

Thank you,  
Wellfleet Shellfish Advisory Board