



Town Shellfish Crier
February 1, 2019

1. Aquaculture Gear Clean-Up Day: Sat., Feb. 23, 6:30 a.m.

We have scheduled a dumpster to be dropped at Mayo Beach on a -1.3 morning tide for an aquaculture gear clean-up day. The clean-up will take place on Saturday, February 23, starting at 6:30 a.m. 44% of grant holders submitted overwintering agreements listing a total of more than 3,000 racks left out. Unfortunately, the ice was devastating to many, and we feel horrible about the loss of oysters and expensive gear. We have been impressed by how many people have come together to help find and remove gear so far, but we need a negative tide to find more. We are also concerned about lost gear impacts on draggers and recreational boaters. We need a community effort to help find and retrieve the gear, including by boat. Please mark your calendars; we appreciate your help.

2. Wellfleet is Number One in the State for the Value of its Shellfish Landings!

In 2018, based on preliminary state reports, Wellfleet was first in the state for blood clam landings, second for oysters and third for quahogs. It was **first in the state for the value of its shellfish landings with more than \$6.8M earned by hard-working local shellfishermen**. About 15% of the town's population of 3,100 is involved in shellfish harvesting. We're the town's biggest year-round industry and an important contributor to the state's seafood economy – and we plan to stay that way!

3. Massachusetts Shellfish Initiative (MSI) Update

The first meeting of the MSI Assessments Committee will be on Wed., Feb. 6, and Asst. Constable John Mankevetch and Deputy Constable Chris Manulla will participate. At the Shellfish Advisory Board Meeting on Monday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. at the Council on Aging, the MSI coordinator Scott Soares will be making a presentation, answering questions and hearing concerns. Please attend and share your thoughts. Learn more about [MSI here](#).

4. Conservation Commission Hearing about Sand Replenishment Project on Indian Neck

On Wednesday, February 20, at 5 p.m. in the basement conference room in Town Hall, the Conservation Commission is holding a public hearing to take comments on a proposed sand replenishment project at the end of Indian Neck. The property was re-nourished last spring, and the sand was gone in a matter of weeks, affecting shellfish grants around Field Point. If your grant is in that area, and you wish to provide details on how that affected your business, please attend. To see the proposal, email Hillary.Lemos@wellfleet-ma.gov or stop by the Conservation Department.

5. Our office is a Lost and Found for gear, buoys and oysters. Please come claim your stuff.

Contact Nancy at nancy.civetta@wellfleet-ma.gov or 617-901-7193 with ideas for information to include in these communications. Thank you!

Nancy Civetta
Shellfish Constable
617-901-7193

John Mankevetch
Assistant Shellfish Constable
508-962-0691

Chris Manulla
Deputy Shellfish Constable
508-962-8934