



Town Shellfish Crier
April 12, 2019

1. Shellfish Department Looking for Input on Where to Site Rotational Closures

The Shellfish Department is exploring ways to increase populations of clams and oysters in the harbor by utilizing the contaminated quahog relay, cultch and seed oysters to establish a harvest closure site for a period of time. We need input from fishermen on potential sites for this type of closure. We are looking at the West Side and would especially welcome feedback from boat operators. Please attend the Shellfish Advisory Board meeting below to express your opinion or contact one of us on Shellfish Department staff to share your thoughts. We need your experience and ideas!

2. Shellfish Advisory Board Meeting and Agenda

The Shellfish Advisory Board is meeting on Tuesday, April 16, at 7 p.m. in the downstairs conference room in Town Hall. Here is the agenda:

- a. Minutes approval 3/11/2019
- b. Shellfish Dept. Update
 - Quahog relay, cultching, propagation and rotation of closed propagation area.
 - Approve new GPS point #5 to correct inaccuracy in current regs; map and appendix B and C.
- c. Martha Craig: Herring River Questions for and about stakeholders meeting in May; also a brief update on progress.
- d. Brett Morse: Information on Wellfleet Fisherman's Association news
- e. M.S.I.: Update and possible letter from S.A.B. on house docket no. 1109
- f. H.D.Y.L.T.A. Trust update: Town Meeting recommendations. Vote-?
- g. Shellfish Management plan: Next step to include 208 Wastewater plans.

3. Wellfleet Bay Scallop Season Closes at sunset on Tuesday, April 16

The Shellfish Department is happy to report that the state agreed to extend Wellfleet's bay scallop season for two weeks. The harvesting of bay scallops will now close at sunset on Tuesday, April 16, 2019.

4. Industry Vibrio Outreach Public Meeting on Thurs., May 9

The Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries is holding its annual vibrio control plan training on Thursday, May 9, 2019, from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. in the Earl Mountain Rm at the Eastham Town Hall, 2500 State Highway, Eastham, MA 02651. Chris Schillaci always has new information and updates to share, so we ask you to please attend. This is **mandatory for all first-year commercial permitholders**, including those who had permits in the past but did not have one last year and those who held permits for the first time last year, but did not attend last year's training. Please contact the Shellfish Department with questions. Thank you.

5. Grant Reminder

Your annual license fees (\$25/acre for each person named to grant) are due each year on the date your grant was originally issued. Therefore, if your grant was renewed on April 12, 2015, your annual license fees are due each year by April 12. Payments go to Principle Clerk Jeanne Maclauchlan on the second floor of Town Hall. Thank you.

6. Diamondback Terrapin Alert

Because you are on the water every day, Mass Audubon is requesting your help in reporting any sightings of terrapins on the flats, wrack line or anyplace out of the water during April. They may be lethargic (cold-shocked) in which case they may be able to be rehabilitated, or they may be dead, in which case they would like to make an examination to attempt to discover cause of death. If you sight one, **please call the Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary turtle hot line 508-349-2615 X 6104** and someone will come to retrieve it.

7. Horseshoe Crab Lunar Closures

To promote the conservation of horseshoe crabs, the commercial horseshoe crab fishery is closed to harvest during five-day lunar closure periods coinciding with each new and full moon occurring on or after April 15 through the end of June. Closures will begin at 12:00AM (midnight) two days prior to the new or full moon and end at 11:59PM two-days after the new or full moon. See horseshoe crab spawning closure dates [here](#).

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