



**Town Shellfish Crier
October 24, 2020**

1. Chipman's Cove Opens Tomorrow, Sunday, October 25, 2020

Low tide is at 1:50 p.m. and it's a 1.8, but that won't stop the annual opening of Chipman's Cove! The Shellfish Department has been working hard to propagate the area with both quahogs and oysters, and we hope it will pay off. Remember to bring your ring and measure your oysters to make sure they are three inches, and make sure your clams are one inch across the hinge by sitting them on the hole in the rectangular gauge. Smaller ones will spawn and contribute to your future years' harvests! We look forward to seeing you there.

2. REMINDER to Watch the Yellow Flag by the Bandstand to See When the Rocks Under the Harbormaster's Building Are Open to Shellfishing: Flag Up=Closed, Flag Down=Open

As of last year, we are now required to manage the shellfish flats under the rocks below the Harbormaster's Building on the south side of the marina on a daily basis, depending on the number of boats present around the boat ramp, finger piers, mosquito docks and L-Pier. If more than ten boats are present in these areas, the area must be closed to shellfish harvest. When ten boats or less are present, the area can open. We have placed a candy-striped pole to the right of the bandstand. A yellow flag will be raised when the area is closed; the flag will come down when it is open. Don't hesitate to contact us with questions. Thank you.

3. The Generosity of Chopper Young, Shellfish Farmer and Six-Time Wellfleet OysterFest Shuck Off Winner

Some shellfish farmers are finding themselves in a predicament because they have no place to sell their oysters due to COVID-19 and so many restaurants being closed or serving at a fraction of their normal capacity. We are fortunate to say that Chopper Young, while enduring these tough times, has always found it in his heart to donate tens of thousands of oysters to the Shellfish Department to the benefit of our recreational shellfishing community. Thanks to his generosity, we have just distributed close to 50,000 oysters between Chipman's Cove and the Indian Neck Recreational Only Area. Thank you, Chopper!

4. Shellfish Department Posts Its Monthly Reports to the Selectboard on Its Website

Learn about the Shellfish Department's monthly activities by reading our reports to the Selectboard [here](#).

We are undertaking shellfish nursery efforts and making investments to supplement what Mother Nature provides so that you will have shellfish to harvest year-round!

Contact Nancy at nancy.civetta@wellfleet-ma.gov or 508-349-0325 with ideas on how the Shellfish Department can help or improve your shellfishing experience – or to learn more. Thank you!

Nancy Civetta
Shellfish Constable

John Mankevetch
Assistant Shellfish Constable

Chris Manulla / Drew Ryan
Deputy Shellfish Constables