



**Town Recreational Shellfish Crier**  
**July 26, 2021**

**1. Seed Reminder and “S” on Permit**

[4.14. Possession of Seed Restricted](#) (page 13 in regulations): Oysters must measure at least three inches long, quahogs must measure at least one inch across the hinge width, and soft-shell clams (steamers) must measure at least two inches long. By allowing shellfish to mature to legal sizes, we can reasonably assume that the animal has spawned, thus contributing to future populations of wild shellfish in Wellfleet Harbor. It is the department’s job to educate as well as enforce the Town of Wellfleet’s shellfishing regulations which culminates directly to our mission of ensuring a sustainable fishery for today and into the future.

**Please measure each piece of shellfish and take any seed off your oysters before putting it into your basket.**

If you are found in possession of seed, your permit will be marked with a “S”, which constitutes a written warning. The next time you are found with seed, you will be issued a ticket for \$50 which is in accordance with the Town of Wellfleet’s Regulations, [Section 11.5. Penalty Fees, found on page 30.](#)

**2. Catch Limit Reminder and “L” on Permit**

Each recreational permit holder is allowed one 10-quart basket a week of any kind of mixed shellfish. The new week begins on Sundays. You are allowed to shellfish on both Sunday and Wednesday as long as you are not taking more than the 10-quart basket on both days combined (i.e., you may take 5-quarts on Sunday and 5-quarts on Wednesday). If you are found over your limit, we will take your excess catch and mark your permit with an “L” or send you a written warning via email. Again, a reminder: measure and cull your catch BEFORE placing it into your basket. **Once shellfish is in your basket, it is considered your catch.**

**3. New Deputy Shellfish Constables Jordan Halloran and Anna Meichenbaum**

With the departure of Deputy Shellfish Constable Drew Ryan came the hiring of two new seasonal shellfish deputies, Jordan Halloran and Anna Meichenbaum. Jordan is our AmeriCorps Cape Cod member who has been serving with the department since October. Anna is a recent college graduate with hopes of attending graduate school for marine biology. Both are eager to be part of the team, and we are thrilled to have them! Welcome Jordan and Anna!

**4. 50,000 Oysters Distributed to Indian Neck**

Two weeks ago, the department distributed 50,000 oysters of varying sizes around the Indian Neck Recreational Area. These oysters were seed in 2020 that we grew on our grant. We overwintered these oysters in the pits at the transfer station and put them back out in March. By July, they had grown to at least a predator-resistant size, many of them growing to the necessary three inches needed for harvest. While there are many oysters ready for harvest, it is very important to measure every piece as some are not the proper length and, therefore, are still seed.

**5. Shellfish Advisory Board Needs Members**

There are currently three vacancies on the Shellfish Advisory Board. They are looking for new members who care about the long-term sustainability of the shellfishing industry and have thoughtful contributions to bring to the table. Please email [sab@wellfleet-ma.gov](mailto:sab@wellfleet-ma.gov) for more info about the board. You can download an application [here](#) and submit it to Principal Clerk Jeanne Maclauchlan to bring to the Selectboard for approval.

We thank you in advance for your help in ensuring a prolific future for our wild shellfish in Wellfleet Harbor. Contact Nancy at [nancy.civetta@wellfleet-ma.gov](mailto:nancy.civetta@wellfleet-ma.gov) or 508-349-0325 with any questions and/or ideas on how the Shellfish Department can help or improve shellfishing. Thank you!

Nancy Civetta  
Shellfish Constable

John Mankevetch  
Assistant Shellfish Constable

Chris Manulla  
Jordan Halloran/Anna Meichenbaum  
Deputy Shellfish Constables