

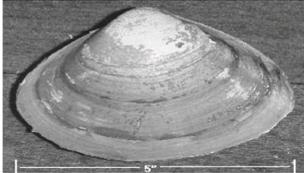
## SHELLFISH SIZE LIMITS

When you purchase a license, you will also need to purchase a gauge to **MEASURE** all shellfish **PRIOR** to placing them in your container!

**Quahogs** (hardshell clams) must measure more than 1" across the hinge (see below). They cannot fit through the center hole of the gauge.



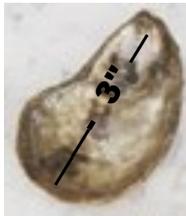
**Sea Clams** (skimmers, surf clams) must measure 5" across the length of the shell.



**Mussels** must measure 2" or more, using the center hole of the gauge.



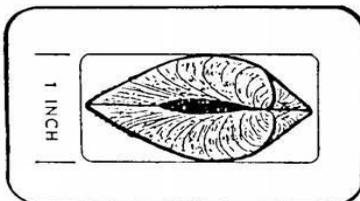
**Oysters** must measure 3" across the longest axis of the shell.



**Scallops** must be 2<sup>nd</sup> year – a well defined line will be visible near the middle of the shell.

**Softshell Clam, Oyster, and Scallop** seasons are open from Nov. 1— April 30.

Measuring the hinged back of a quahog:

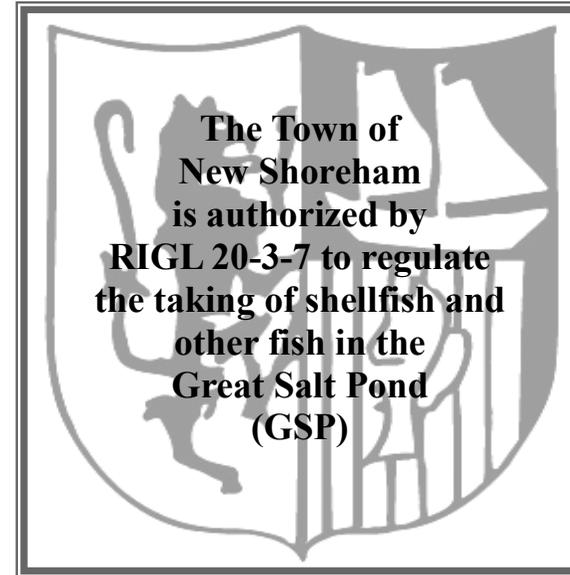


## REGULATIONS

By accepting a shellfish license you agree to allow inspection of any container, vessel, vehicle or building under your control for the purpose of determining compliance with the shellfish ordinances. If you refuse an inspection, your license will be confiscated and you will not be entitled to a shellfish license for the remainder of the year (May 15, 2016).

- ◆ You must keep your **LICENSE ON YOUR PERSON** whenever you are shellfishing or transporting shellfish.
- ◆ You may not store or hang shellfish in any container in the closed areas. This is a serious health risk and is strictly enforced.
- ◆ Shellfish gear must be stowed when transiting a closed area.
- ◆ You may not dig in or take shellfish from any of the closed areas.
- ◆ Digging in the barrier grasses is prohibited.
- ◆ You must **re-bury** undersize and seedling shellfish **immediately**. Failure to do so is considered possession of undersize.
- ◆ You may dig any time between sunrise and sunset. Shellfishing during the hours of darkness is prohibited.
- ◆ Using SCUBA equipment or breathing apparatus to take shellfish is prohibited. You may use a snorkel and mask.
- ◆ You may not use any powered equipment. The use of dip nets for scalloping is allowed.
- ◆ Any tongs or rakes used to take shellfish must be constructed with teeth no less than one inch apart. If the rake has a basket the openings in the basket must be at least 1" by 2-1/2".
- ◆ All shellfish must be **measured before** being **placed** in your **container**.

## Town of New Shoreham Shellfish & Finfish Regulations June 2015 - May 2016



The **New Shoreham Shellfish Commission** and the **Harbors Department** work year long to provide a viable, renewable clamming resource. Our rules and regulations are to benefit both clammers and shellfish.

Our conservation and seeding efforts are to ensure the availability of this resource in the future. Please respect the **Great Salt Pond** and its fragile ecosystem.

**Thank You!**

*Revised 05/2015 per DEM/DFW*

## LICENSES

Seasonal License (expires 10/14)	\$60
Monthly License (30 days)	\$32
Weekly license (7 days)	\$20
Resident license (expires 5/15)	\$20
Golden License (expires 5/15)	\$10
Replace lost license	\$5

**Shellfish Gauges: \$2 each for renewals; no charge for 1st-time Licensee.**

**To obtain a Resident license you must be:**

- ◆ A Block Island Resident (Driver's License required) **or**
- ◆ A Block Island tax payer (Tax receipt or name on tax rolls required) **or**
- ◆ Registered to vote on Block Island (Voter registration card or name on voter registration list required)

All persons 14 years of age and above **MUST** obtain a **New Shoreham Shellfish License** prior to taking shellfish from the Great Salt Pond. Persons under the age of 14 may take shellfish only if they are accompanied by a **LICENSED** adult.

Licenses are available in the Harbormaster's office at the Boat Basin from 9am to 4pm, 7 days a week from 6/22/15 - 8/31/15  
You **MUST** bring a photo ID!  
(401) 466-3204

**Dogs damage delicate habitat areas.** The shoreline and upland conservation areas adjacent to the Great Salt Pond are critically important to the health of the Pond. Please obey the Town's leash law.

## VIOLATIONS & FINES

**Harbors Department** employees patrol the grounds daily. Our wardens will enforce all ordinances and regulations in accordance with RIGL 20-3-7 and Town Ordinance Art IV Sec 9 121-148. Fines range from \$50 to \$2000, and may be referred to **New Shoreham Police Department** and **Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management**.

Our wardens can answer any questions regarding clamming and will assist you with understanding our regulations.

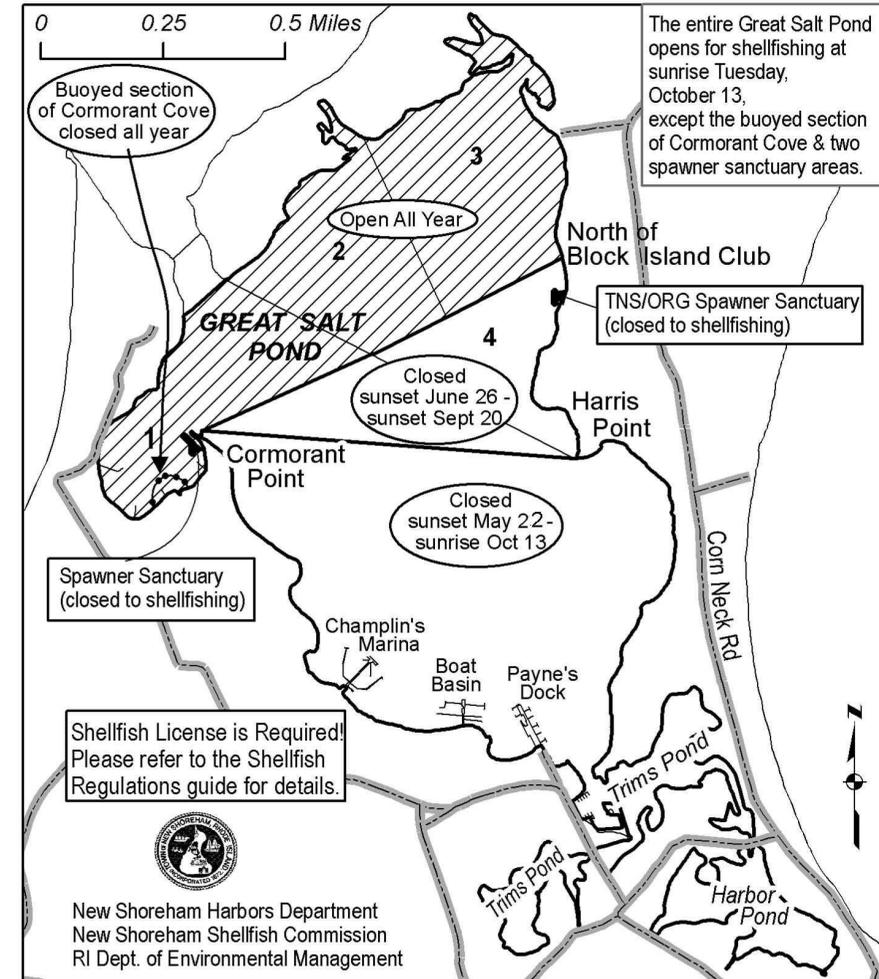
Shellfishing without a license	\$50
Shellfish license not on person	\$50
Possession of undersize	\$50
Possession of amount over limit	\$50
Shellfishing during prohibited hours	\$50, State fines \$1000 / 3 years
Closed area violations	\$200, State fines \$2000 / 4 years
Use of prohibited apparatus	\$50
Failure to obey	\$50
Possession out of season	\$50

The fine for a **Closed Area Violation** is **\$200**. All closed area and nighttime violations are reported to RIDEM.

## RECREATIONAL FINFISH LIMITS

SPECIES / SEASON	BAG LIMIT / MINIMUM SIZE
<b>Note: limits can change without notice.</b> Contact: RI DEM <a href="http://www.dem.ri.gov/topics">www.dem.ri.gov/topics</a> → marine fisheries or (401) 423-1920	
<b>AMERICAN EEL</b> No closed season	25/person/day 9" minimum
<b>BLACK SEA BASS</b> 7/2-8/31 & 9/1-12/31	1/persn/day & 7/persn/day 14" minimum
<b>BLUEFISH</b> No closed season	15 fish No minimum size
<b>COD</b> No closed season	10 fish 22" minimum
<b>FLUKE</b> (Summer Flounder) 5/1 - 12/31	8 fish 18" minimum
<b>SCUP</b> 5/1—12/31	<b>Shore/Private:</b> 30 fish/10" minimum <b>Party/Charter:</b> 5/1-8/31: 30 fish 9/1-10/31: 45 fish 11/1-12/31: 30 fish 10" minimum
<b>STRIPED BASS</b> No closed season	1 fish 28" minimum
<b>TAUTOG</b> (Blackfish) 4/15—5/31, 6/1—7/31, 8/1—10/18, 10/19—12/15	4/15-5/31: 3 fish 6/1-7/31: CLOSED 8/1-10/17: 3 fish 10/18-12/15: 6 fish 16" minimum <b>Party/Charter:</b> same as above, with max of 10 fish/vessel
<b>WEAKFISH</b> (Squeteague) No closed season	1 fish 16" minimum
<b>WINTER FLOUNDER</b> 3/1—12/31	2 fish/person/day 12" minimum

## SHELLFISH SEASONS, CLOSURES & QTY LIMITS



SHELLFISH—RECREATIONAL Quantities Per Day		
Species	Summer Season 6/27/2015-9/20/2015	Off Season 9/21/2015-6/26/2016
Quahogs	4 qt	8 qt
Sea Clams	4 qt	8 qt
Mussels	4 qt	8 qt
(total mix of varieties 8 qt)		
Soft Shell Clams OPEN 11/1/2015 — 4/30/2016		
OYSTER / SCALLOP SEASON: 11/1/2015 — 4/30/2016		
Oysters: 8 qt / Scallops: 1 Bushel per all types of harvesters		

Area	Open	Closed
Buoyed / Sanctuaries	Closed All Year	
1, 2, 3	Open All Year	
4	9/21/15— 6/24/16	6/26/15 - 9/20/15
All Other	10/14/15 - 5/27/16	5/22/15 - 10/13/16

Shellfishing is allowed from **SUNRISE** until **SUNSET** only.