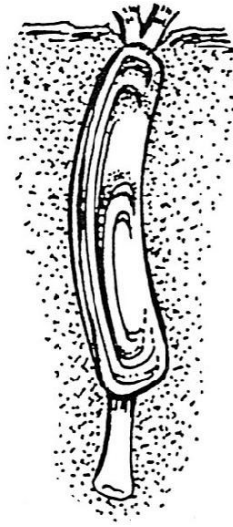


## RULES & REGULATIONS (cont.)

14. Permit holders shall stay informed of current harvesting days and areas deemed open/closed. This information can be obtained on our website: [www.marshfieldpolice.org](http://www.marshfieldpolice.org) or by contacting the Harbormaster's office directly at 781.834.8298
15. Shellfish may not be sold, wasted, or bartered in any manner. Commercial shellfishing is not authorized under recreational permits.
16. Shellfish shall not be harvested when the ambient temperature is under 32 degrees Fahrenheit.
17. The taking/harvesting of shellfish in closed areas for reasons including bait is strictly prohibited. Signage is posted in closed areas. All catch will be seized and permit holder will be subject to state and local laws/fines.
18. All permit information will be recorded and kept on file at the Harbormaster's Department.
19. No persons shall plant, introduce, transplant, relay, propagate new shellfish to Marshfield coastal waters without the appropriate permitting from the Harbormaster and Department of Marine Fisheries.
20. Resident shellfish permits are twenty dollars (\$20.00). Marshfield residents 65 or older will not be charged a permit fee, but must obtain a permit to harvest. Non-Resident permits are fifty dollars (50.00) per calendar year. All permits are non-transferrable. Photo identification is needed to obtain a permit. All Massachusetts veterans are eligible for a resident permit fee with proper identification pursuant to MGL 130 section 52.
21. The Towns of Marshfield and Scituate recreational shellfish permits have reciprocity, an active permit is needed from either town. This DOES NOT increase your catch allowance of 8 quarts or 1 peck per week starting on Sunday.
22. Recreational permit holders are required to affix the issued shellfish vehicular placard while actively shellfishing.
23. Shellfishing can be very enjoyable, but strenuous. Tidal flats are subject to adverse tidal change and can sometimes be muddy. Proper gear is essential for shellfishing especially in winter months. It is highly recommended to shellfish with family or friends. Furthermore, it is prudent to advise someone when you are shellfishing.

## RAZOR CLAMS



Razor clams may not be taken measuring less than four inches in length. Razor clams may not be sold or harvested Commercially. Razor clams are generally located near the Low tide mark. In rivers and coastal streams, inlets.

## EELS



Shellfish permit holders are entitled to fish three (3) pots/traps for eels. Pots/traps shall not impede the navigable harbors, rivers, channels, creek, inlets. Eels shall be at least 4 inches in length. Weekly limit of 25 eels per family per week. Eels may be fished traditionally with a rod & reel without a shellfish permit. Possession of Elvers (juvenile eels) under 4 inches is prohibited.

Open year round unless **CLOSED** by the Shellfish Constable or Selectboard, Eels may not be commercially sold.

## TOWN OF MARSHFIELD

### SHELLFISH RULES & REGULATIONS



**Michael DiMeo**  
**Harbormaster**  
**Shellfish Constable**

### NOTICE

Shellfish permits, Rules & Regulations are reviewed often to better manage, regulate and protect the conservation of the Town of Marshfield's living marine resources. They will be managed to keep resources sustainable.

Shellfishing updates can be found at:

**[www.marshfieldpolice.org](http://www.marshfieldpolice.org)**

**NOTE :**

**Regulations approved by the Selectboard**

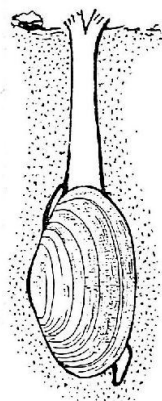
**On this day:**

**December 19 2022**

## TOWN OF MARSHFIELD SHELLFISH RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Shellfish permits must be visible at all times, while in the act of harvesting shellfish, eels, seaworms.
2. Permits and catch are subject to inspection by Shellfish Constables, Harbormasters, Assistant Harbormasters or designees. Permit holders shall carry an appropriate gauge to measure catch. All catch shall be measured while in the act of harvesting shellfish, as pursuant to MGL Chapter 130.
3. All shellfish shall be dug with conventional tined tools. Shovels and power assisted apparatuses are prohibited.
4. Shellfish and seaworms shall not be harvested within 25 feet of the salt marsh to/reduce/disrupt the rooting of marsh grass.
5. Shellfish shall not be shucked/opened or discarded on tidal flats or beaches within the Town of Marshfield.
6. All holes shall be recovered/filled in prior to leaving digging area.
7. Soft shelled clams (Steamers) and Blue Mussels shall not be harvested under 2 inches in length.
8. Razor clams under 4 inches in length shall not be harvested.
9. Quahogs shall measure at least 1 inch in width for legal possession.
10. Sea clams shall measure at least 5 inches in length for legal possession.
11. Permits are required by all persons over the age of 16. Those under 16 years of age must be accompanied by a permit holder. Limits may not be increased by presence of a child.
12. The shellfish week starts on Sundays. The weekly limit is 8 quarts/1 peck per week, per household. Catch may have a combined harvest **NOT** to exceed the weekly 8 quart limit. One peck is equivalent to 8 quarts.
13. Open areas are designated by the Harbormaster/Shellfish Constable, in cooperation with the Department of Marine Fisheries. Marshfield shellfish flats are currently OPEN seven (7) days a week. Harvesting is authorized from one half hour BEFORE sunrise to one half hour AFTER sunset. Closure notifications will be sent to the email and phone number on file.

## SOFT SHELL CLAMS (Steamers)

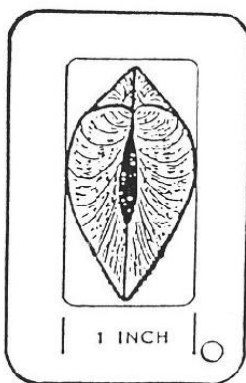


Steamers under 2 inches in length shall not be taken. Steamers may not be sold or harvested commercially. Steamers are located between the high and low tide mark. Steamers are typically located 4-12 inches below the surface.



## QUAHOGS

Quahogs shall measure 1 inch in width. Quahogs may not be sold or harvested commercially. Quahogs can be found just below the sand or mud surface between the high and low tide area.



## SEA CLAMS

Sea Clams are the largest of clams in our region. They are commonly referred to as Surf clams. Sea clams may not be sold or harvested commercially. Sea clams shall measure at least 5 inches in length for legal size. Sea clams are found on exposed tidal beaches just below the surface.



## BLUE MUSSELS

Blue Mussels shall measure two inches in length. Blue Mussels may not be sold or harvested commercially. Commercial mussel permits are available under a limited entry fishery.



## Traditional Shellfish Basket

Most shellfish baskets used today are either 10 quart or 20 quart wire mesh baskets. Our regulations allow for only 8 quarts/1 peck per week, per household. Catch can be combined not to exceed the 8 quart limit.

