



Roger Bowgen
Chairman

**Town of Greenwich
Shellfish Commission**

**GREENWICH
RECREATIONAL SHELLFISHING**

**2009 – 2010
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**FOR THE LATEST OPEN/CLOSED UPDATES
CALL 622-7777 BEFORE SHELLFISHING**

**OYSTERS MAY BE TAKEN FROM
GREENWICH WATERS
FOR THE 2009 – 2010 SEASON**

THE GREENWICH SHELLFISH COMMISSION HAS
APPROVED THE TAKING OF OYSTERS FOR THIS
SEASON

NO OYSTERS ARE TO BE TAKEN LESS THAN THREE
INCHES IN LENGTH (3"). QUANTITY NOT TO
EXCEED 24 OYSTERS PER PERMIT PER DAY.

Season

The shellfish season shall run from October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010. The Greenwich Shellfish Commission (GSC) shall determine which areas may be opened or closed to shell fishing in accordance with the Connecticut and Greenwich Health Departments' regulations and the GSC's management practices. Some beds may be closed after 1-1/2" rainfall or a pollution event.

When shellfish areas are opened, closed, or reopened, announcements will be made through the local news and the Shellfish Hotline (622-7777). Two signs at Greenwich Point, one is located north of the entrance booth and the other west of the OG Boat Club, show the open/closed status for areas A, B, C, & F. A red flag will be flown from each island when their respective areas, D or E, are closed.

Permits

No one shall harvest or possess any shellfish from town waters without having a valid permit. Permits are sold at the Town Clerk's Office, and are valid for October 1 through September 30. They must be prominently displayed on outer clothing and visible to Shellfish Wardens.

Limits

1) **Amounts.** No person shall collect or have in his or her possession more than 1 peck (8 quarts, or 2 gallons, or 1/4 bushel) of shellfish per day. The maximum number of oysters that may be taken per day is limited to 24. No collected shellfish shall be sold or bartered.

2) **Sizes:** No person shall harvest or possess:

Hard Shell Clams (*Mercenaria*) which will pass through a one and one-half inch (1-1/2") diameter ring.

Soft Shell Clams (*Mya*) less than one and one-half inches (1-1/2") long

Mussels (*Mytilus*) less than one and one-half inches (1-1/2") long

Razor Clams (*Ensis*) less than four inches (4") long

Oysters (*Crassostrea*) less than three inches (3") long

3) **Measuring.** No person shall shellfish without having on hand a one and one-half inch (1-1/2") internal diameter ring. For measuring there is a three and one-quarter inch (3-1/4") ruler on the back of each green permit holder.

PROHIBITIONS

- 1) No person shall dig or collect any shellfish from any *closed* areas for any purpose at any time, not even for bait.
- 2) No person shall use any rake, tongs, or other devices having spaces or openings between the teeth or prongs less than one inch (1"). No hand shovels or any power-operated device or tool, or tow dredging apparatus may be used.
- 3) No person shall dig or collect any shellfish between sunset and sunrise.
- 4) No person shall dig or collect any shellfish where tidal marsh grasses are located, nor from any tidal pond at Greenwich Point or Great Captain's Island.
- 5) No person shall dig or collect any shellfish from a posted swimming beach area from May 1 through September 30.

SHELLFISHING AREAS (SEE MAP)

Any person violating any provision of these regulations can lose his or her right to use or obtain a shellfishing permit, and may, for each offense, be fined not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) or imprisoned for not more than thirty (30) days, or both.