



Roger Bowgen
Chairman

**Town of Greenwich
Shellfish Commission**

**GREENWICH
RECREATIONAL SHELLFISHING**

**2010 – 2011
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**FOR THE LATEST OPEN/CLOSED UPDATES
CALL 203-622-7777 BEFORE SHELLFISHING**

**OYSTERS MAY BE TAKEN FROM
GREENWICH WATERS
FOR THE 2010 – 2011 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.

OYSTERS IN A QUANTITY OF 24 OR LESS MAY BE MIXED
WITH OTHER AUTHORIZED SHELLFISH IN KEEPING
WITH PRESENT REGULATIONS.

SEASON

The Greenwich Point shellfish harvesting season runs from late fall to early spring of the following year. Exact dates of openings or closings of beds are to be determined by the Greenwich Shellfish Commission (GSC) in accordance with the Connecticut and Greenwich Health Department regulations and the GSC's management practices. 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 (203-622-7777) and the town website (www.greenwichct.org). 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. Openings and closings of beds D & E around Island Beach and Great Captain's Island may be determined by calling the Shellfish Hotline (203-622-7777).

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.

Shellfish Wardens are periodically on duty to assist with information, identification and rule interpretation.

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



(Blue) 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.

PROHIBITIONS

- 1) No person shall dig or collect any hard shell clams, softshell clams, blue mussels, razor clams or oysters in 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 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.