

TOWN OF GROTON
SHELLFISH COMMISSION RECREATIONAL SHELLFISH REGULATIONS

This pamphlet contains regulations governing recreational shellfishing in the Town of Groton. The map on the reverse side shows the areas where recreational shellfishing is permitted. Commercial shellfishing is permitted in areas not readily accessible to recreational shellfishing provided the necessary State and Town permits are obtained. Income to the Groton Shellfish Commission is from the sale of permits and from commercial lease fees. Income is used to defray the expense of mandated shellfish patrols and to support programs designed to enhance recreational shellfishing in the Town of Groton, e.g., stocking of clams and oysters

Additional Information may be obtained by contacting a member of the Shellfish Commission or by writing to:

Groton Shellfish Commission
Town of Groton
45 Fort Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340-4393

For the current status of recreational shellfish areas (see map on back) call: 860-441-6793

Revision

September 1, 2019

REGULATIONS FOR HARVESTING CLAMS, MUSSELS & OYSTERS

Under the provisions of Chapter 492 Section 26-257a and 26-290 of the State of Connecticut General Statutes, the Groton Shellfish Commission has adopted the following regulations concerning the taking of clams, mussels, and oysters in the open and conditionally open waters of the Town of Groton.

1. No person shall take any clams, mussels or oysters from Town waters without first obtaining a permit issued by the Shellfish Commission. Permits may be obtained at the Groton Town Clerk's Office, the Town Police Station, and Ken's Tackle Shop. All persons over 12 years of age need a permit. Persons 12 years of age and under may take shellfish without a permit, in conformance with all shellfish regulations, if accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older holding a valid permit.
2. Shellfish may only be taken from open or conditionally open waters. Call 860-441-6793 for status.
3. Shellfishing is permitted only between sunrise and sunset.
4. Daily limit for recreational shellfish shall be one peck (about 2 gallons) per day per person for Common Surf Clams (Spisula solidissima), Hard Shell Clams (Mercinaria mercinaria), Atlantic Razor Clams (Ensis directus), Soft Shell Clams (Mya arenaria) or Blue Mussels (Mytilus edulis) or any combination. Daily limit for Eastern Oysters is thirty (30).
5. No Hard Shell or Soft shell clams or mussels may be taken measuring less than two inches (2") in greatest length. No Eastern razor clams may be taken measuring less than four inches (4") in greatest length. No oysters may be taken measuring less than three inches (3") in greatest length. All shellfishers shall have a measuring device in their possession.
6. The shellfish permit, personal ID, and catch must be immediately available for inspection upon demand of Shellfish Commission Members, Shellfish Wardens, or designated enforcement officers of the Town of Groton or State of Connecticut.
7. All shellfish illegally taken must be immediately returned to waters at least 18 inches deep (at low tide).
8. No tongs, rakes, or forks with openings less than 1 inch may be used for taking shellfish. No shovels or spades shall be used for digging any species of clams.
9. Taking of shellfish by skin diving or SCUBA is prohibited unless special permission is granted by the Groton Shellfish Commission.
10. Any person who violated any shellfish regulations is subject to a fine of not more than \$50.00 or imprisonment for not more than 30 days or both.