

*Paula Toben Asst.*  
**A True Copy, ATTEST:**  
**Chatham Town Clerk**

**TOWN OF CHATHAM  
HARBORMASTER**

14 OCT 29 1:56PM  
CHATHAM TOWN CLERK

**WATERWAYS REGULATIONS FOR  
MOORING, MOORING PERMITS, ANCHORING AND BOAT RAMP USE**

**§1001 Authority and enforcement**

- (a) These regulations are adopted by the Harbormaster pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapters 90B, 91 and 102, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Regulations Chapter 310, Section 9.07 and Chapter 265 of the Town of Chatham General Bylaws.
- (b) The Harbormaster and/or Assistant Harbormasters have the authority to enforce all regulations set forth herein.

**§1002 Definitions**

The following words, for the purposes of these regulations, unless another meaning is clearly apparent for the way the word is used, have the following meanings:

- (1) "berth" means any space wherein a vessel is confined by wet slip, float, mooring, or other type of docking facility.
- (2) "boatyard" means a facility whose function is the construction, repair, or maintenance of vessels, which may include provisions for vessel storage and docking while awaiting service.
- (3) "channel" means a navigable route for the passage of vessels, established by customary use or under the authority of federal, state or municipal law.
- (4) "environmentally sensitive resource area" means those areas specifically defined by the Department of Coastal Resources in conjunction with the Shellfish Department. The locations of all such areas shall be designated using accepted scientific criteria, described in writing, defined using GPS or other acceptable method and receive final approval from and be filed with the Office of the Harbormaster.
- (5) "Harbormaster" means the duly appointed Harbormaster or Assistant Harbormaster.
- (6) "length" means the straight line measurement of the overall length from the foremost part of the vessel to the aftermost part of the vessel, measured parallel to the centerline, exclusive of bow sprits, bumpkins, rudders, outboard motor brackets, and similar fittings or attachments.
- (7) "marina" means a berthing area with docking facilities under common ownership or control and with berths for ten or more vessels, including commercial marinas, boat basins, and yacht clubs. A marina may be an independent facility or may be associated with a boatyard.

## DEFINITIONS

### DEFINITIONS

- (8) “mooring tackle” means the anchor(s), chain(s), hawser(s), bridle(s) and so forth, used to secure a vessel.
- (9) “person” means any individual, partnership, trust, firm, corporation, association, commission, district, department, board municipality, public or quasi-public agency or authority.
- (10) “private recreational boating facility” means a facility for berthing of recreational vessels at which all berths and accessory uses thereto are not available for patronage by the general public, or where exclusive use of any such berth is available on a long-term basis. Such berths shall not include a berth reserved for the operator of said facility.
- (11) “qualified person” means an individual who has received written approval to inspect moorings from the Harbormaster. The Office of the Harbormaster shall maintain a list of qualified mooring inspectors.
- (12) “vessel” means every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on the water.
- (13) “other object” means any floating object, including but not limited to floats or rafts, storage cars for marine products, secured by anchors or bottom moorings.
- (14) “immediate family” means parents, siblings, children, spouses, and legally adopted step-children.
- (15) “commercial fishing classification” - Any fisherman who derives no less than 75% of their income from commercial fin fishing or shellfishing as his/her principal occupation.

### §1003 Applicability

These regulations apply to all –

- (a) Moorings tackle in the waters of the Town of Chatham including fresh water ponds
- (b) Vessels or other objects anchored or moored on the waters of the Town of Chatham, including fresh water ponds.

## MOORING PERMITS

### §1004 All vessels required to have mooring permit

- (a) All vessels berthed **for two consecutive weeks or more** on the waters of Chatham (including fresh water ponds) shall obtain a **mooring permit** from the Harbormaster.
- (b) Other objects, including, but not limited to, floats or rafts attached to ground tackle shall obtain an independent permit for the mooring(s).

- (c) Boats secured to a permitted moored float shall have a “boat only” mooring permit.
- (d) Mooring permits are issued annually and **expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>** of the calendar they are issued.
- (e) A private mooring **permit** shall not be transferred, except to a member within the immediate family with the written approval of the Harbormaster.

**§1005 Obtaining a new mooring permit**

A person desiring assignment of a **new mooring location** and issuance of a **new mooring permit** shall:

- (a) Complete a “Town of Chatham Mooring Application” provided by the Office of the Harbormaster.
- (b) The Harbormaster must approve and sign the “Application.”
- (c) In order to receive a mooring permit the applicant must present the “Application” and pay the appropriate fee to receive a mooring permit. [See below for fees.]
- (d) Failure to complete the steps above shall result in rejection and return of the application, or invalidate a permit.
- (e) If there is no berth available in the area requested, the applicant may request to be placed on the “waiting list” for the desired mooring location. [See below for “waiting list” procedures.]

**§1006 Renewal of an existing permit**

- (a) A mooring permit holder will receive annually a “Mooring Permit Renewal” form from the Office of the Harbormaster.
- (b) The mooring permit holder who wishes to renew the permit shall –
  - (1) Ensure that the information on the form is accurate and that all requested information is complete;
  - (2) Provide copies of boat registration or documentation as requested; and
  - (3) Return the form to the Office of the Harbormaster with the required annual fee between **1 November and 31 December**.
- (c) A permit holder who does not wish to renew the permit should so indicate on the renewal form and return the form to the Office of the Harbormaster.
- (d) Renewal of a **mooring permit may be denied** if the permit holder is delinquent in the payment of any **local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or any other municipal charges** in accordance

with the Town of Chatham General Bylaw, Chapter 180, Section 180-2.

- (e) A person who fails to renew a mooring permit by **28 February** shall forfeit the mooring location and the associated mooring permit.

## MOORING FEES

### § 1007 Mooring Fees

The following fees shall apply to all vessels, moorings or other objects, both public and private, moored on waters of the Town of Chatham. The fees are for **all vessels on moorings, slips, docks, or floats** and apply to both commercial and recreational vessels, and facilities.

- (a) **Private moorings:**
  - All vessels, length overall: **\$3.50 / foot.**
  - “Mooring Only”** **\$40.00**
  
- (b) **Commercial Fishing Vessels:**
  - All vessels, length overall: **\$2.50 / foot.**
  
- (c) **Renters of commercial rental moorings / slips**
  - All vessels, length overall: **\$3.50 / foot.**
  
- (d) **Commercial / Rental Moorings (Marina / Boatyard):**
  - For each mooring available for rent to the General public **\$150.00**
  
- (e) **Town Transient Moorings**
  - Resident or Non-resident taxpayer: **N/C**
  - Non-resident - Current mooring permit holder: **\$10.00 per night**
  - Non resident - Transient: **\$25.00 per night**
  
- (f) **Waiting list fees**
  - Resident / Non-resident taxpayer:**
    - Initial fee / Annual renewal fee: **\$5.00 / boat**
  - Non-resident:**
    - Initial fee / Annual renewal fee: **\$15.00 / boat**
  
- (g) **Late fees**
  - Mooring permit** renewals received after 31 December thru 28 February **\$25.00 / month**
  - Waiting list** renewal received after 31 December thru 28 February **\$15.00 / month**

**NOTE:** All late fees are in addition to the original fee.

**MOORING TACKLE SPECIFICATIONS,  
IDENTIFICATION and INSPECTION OF MOORINGS**

**§1008 Mooring tackle specifications**

- (a) Substitutions of similarly sized mooring anchors are not permitted without the approval of the Harbormaster.
- (b) The tackle specifications outlined below are **minimum standards** and are **not** designed to meet severe conditions. If **severe weather** is predicted, the prudent mariner should take **additional measures**, including the removal of the vessel from the water.

<b>PROTECTED AREAS</b>						
<b>(The Mill Ponds, Mitchell River, Oyster River, Oyster Pond, Outermost Harbor, Taylor's Pond, Ryder's Cove, Crows Pond, and all Freshwater Ponds)</b>						
<b>Vessel length</b>	<b>Mushroom</b>	<b>Screw Anchor (lbs. Holding Power)</b>	<b>Pyramid (Dormor®)</b>	<b>Chain size</b>	<b>Hardware size</b>	<b>Line Size</b>
up to 13'	50 lbs.	1,500 lbs.	70 lbs.	3/8"	3/8"	7/16"
14'-16'	75 lbs.	1,500 lbs.	135 lbs.	3/8"	3/8"	7/16"
17'-20'	100 lbs.	2,500 lbs.	200 lbs.	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"
21'-24'	200 lbs.	4,000 lbs.	300 lbs.	1/2"	1/2"	5/8"
25'-27'	250 lbs.	5,000 lbs.	350 lbs.	5/8"	5/8"	3/4"
28'-30'	400 lbs.	7,000 lbs.	500 lbs.	3/4"	3/4"	7/8"
31'-40'	None	10,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1"	1"	1"
41'-50'	None	12,000 lbs.	2,000 lbs.	1"	1"	1 1/8"
Over 50'	<b>As Specified by the Harbormaster</b>					
Floats and Docks	<b>As Specified by the Harbormaster</b>					

<b>EXPOSED AREA 1</b> (Pleasant Bay, Inner and Outer Stage Harbor, Nantucket Sound)						
<b>Vessel length</b>	<b>Mushroom</b>	<b>Screw Anchor (lbs. Holding Power)</b>	<b>Concrete Block</b>	<b>Chain size</b>	<b>Hardware size</b>	<b>Line size</b>
up to 13'	75 lbs.	1,500 lbs.	200 lbs.	3/8"	3/8"	7/16"
14'-16'	100 lbs.	1,500 lbs.	300 lbs.	3/8"	3/8"	7/16"
17'-20'	150 lbs.	2,500 lbs.	500 lbs.	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"
21'-24'	250 lbs.	4,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1/2"	1/2"	5/8"
25'-27'	350 lbs.	5,000 lbs.	2,000 lbs.	5/8"	5/8"	3/4"
28'-30'	None	7,000 lbs.	3,000 lbs.	3/4"	3/4"	7/8"
31'-40'	None	10,000 lbs.	4,000 lbs.	1"	1"	1"
41'-50'	None	12,000 lbs.	6,000 lbs.	1"	1"	1 1/8"
Over 50'	<b>As Specified by the Harbormaster</b>					
Floats and Docks	<b>As Specified by the Harbormaster</b>					
<b>Pyramid anchors - upon approval of the Harbormaster</b>						

<b>EXPOSED AREAS 2</b> (All of Chatham Harbor, Aunt Lydia's Cove)						
<b>Vessel length</b>	<b>Mushroom</b>	<b>Pyramid (Dormor®)</b>	<b>Concrete Block</b>	<b>Chain size</b>	<b>Hardware size</b>	<b>Line size</b>
up to 13'	75 lbs.	70 lbs.	200 lbs.	3/8"	3/8"	7/16"
14'-16'	100 lbs.	135 lbs.	300 lbs.	3/8"	3/8"	7/16"
17'-20'	150 lbs.	200 lbs.	500 lbs.	1/2"	1/2"	1/2"
21'-24'	250 lbs.	400 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1/2"	1/2"	5/8"
25'-27'	350 lbs.	500 lbs.	2,000 lbs.	5/8"	5/8"	3/4"
28'-30'	400 lbs.	700 lbs.	3,000 lbs.	3/4"	3/4"	7/8"
31'-40'	None	1,000 lbs.	4,000 lbs.	1"	1"	1"
41'-50'	None	2,000 lbs.	6,000 lbs.	1 1/8"	1 1/8"	1 1/8"
Over 50'	<b>As Specified by the Harbormaster</b>					
Floats and Docks	<b>As Specified by the Harbormaster</b>					

(c) Construction of mooring blocks shall be approved by the Harbormaster. Concrete blocks 1000 lbs and over shall be steel-reinforced. Hairpins shall be 25% heavier than required chain.

(d) Size equivalents for concrete blocks:

150 LB.= 18"X18"X 6"  
300 LB.= 18"X18"X12"  
500 LB.= 22"X22"X12"

1000 LB.= 28"X28"X18"  
2000 LB.= 36"X36"X18"  
4000 LB.= 48"X48"X21"  
6000 LB.= 48"X48"X31"

- (e) **Length of chain** shall be at least three (3) times longer than the depth of water at mean high water when the mooring is located in exposed areas.
- (f) **Total length of chain and pennant** – shall be equal to **at least 3-times** the depth of water at **Mean High Water (MHW)** where the mooring is located, but shall not be more than 4-times the depth of water at MHW without permission of the Harbormaster.
- (g) **Mooring pennants (hawsers)** shall be three strand-nylon or equivalent, shall not float, shall be fitted with thimbles of appropriate size where they are attached to chain or metal fittings, shall be shackled directly to the chain, and shall be equipped with adequate chaffing gear where they pass through chocks or hawse holes.
- (h) **Length of Mooring pennants (hawsers)** shall be **2 ½ times** the distance from the waterline to top of the stem, plus the distance to the deck cleat.
- (i) **Shackles** shall be at same size as the chain or larger.
- (j) **Swivels**, if used, shall be one size larger than the chain to which they are connected.
- (k) **Shackles** and **swivels** shall be **safety wired or welded** to prevent loosening.
- (l) **Screw anchors** shall be installed by a **licensed installer** certified by the anchor manufacturer and approved by the Harbormaster.
- (m) Location of all **permanent** mooring anchors, including blocks, shall be assigned by the Harbormaster, and **exact latitude / longitude positions**, using GPS or other approved system, must be obtained and recorded during the installation, and provided to the Harbormaster.
- (n) **No new concrete blocks** are permitted in **protected areas**. Existing blocks will be replaced with alternative systems through attrition.
- (o) All **concrete mooring blocks** located within **environmentally sensitive resource areas** shall be **removed and replaced** by an approved alternative anchor within 5-years from the date the areas is designated and approved by the Harbormaster.
- (p) All **mushroom anchors** shall be equipped with an appropriately sized **shank weight** to assist in the proper ‘setting’ of the mooring.
- (q) **Mooring buoys** shall be a **white mooring ball with a blue horizontal stripe**.

- (r) **Winter spars** shall –
  - (1) Be white in color with a blue band.
  - (2) Be upright at an angle of not less than forty-five (45) degrees at any period of tide and have a minimum of 18 inches exposed.
  - (3) Not be constructed of **wood**.
  - (4) Not be used between **June 15<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>**.
  - (5) Be identified with the owners name and assigned mooring permit number.

#### **§1009 Identification of moorings**

- (a) The **last name** of the owner / permit holder and the assigned **mooring permit number** shall be permanently and legibly displayed on the **mooring buoy or winter spar** in block characters (letters and Arabic numerals) of at least one (1) inch in height and must contrast in color with the background. [Beginning January 1999 all mooring permit number are permanently assigned. The number will not change from year to year.]

#### **§1010 Identification of vessels or other objects secured by mooring tackle**

- (a) **Each vessel** or other object attached to a mooring shall display the current mooring **permit sticker**. The mooring sticker shall be displayed in a visible location on the **port (left) side** of the **vessel**.
- (b) If not registered, owners of a sailing vessel may affix the mooring **permit sticker** on the **port side** near the bottom of the main mast
- (c) The numbers of the mooring tag and mooring sticker shall be the same unless otherwise authorized by the Harbormaster.
- (d) All dinghies, prams and tenders used to access moored vessels shall display a decal issued by the Harbormaster, on the port side inside of the transom. The decal shall include current identification and contact information of the vessel owner.
- (e) As a condition of each mooring permit, no one will be permitted to store their dinghy, pram or tender on town-owned property after November 30<sup>th</sup> or before April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year, unless the dinghy, pram or tender is in active use by the owner/permit holder. Failure to remove the vessel from town property by those dates may result in fines, the vessel being removed at owner's expense, or both.

#### **§1011 Mooring Inspection**

- (a) All moorings shall be inspected and approved by a qualified person before being placed in service in the waters of the Town of Chatham, including fresh water ponds.  
*Mooring Inspection Guidelines:*

1. Any chain showing more than 33% wear from the size specified in the mooring regulations must be replaced. If a mooring chain meets the 33% guideline but shows excessive or uneven wear in the opinion of the inspector, he may require another inspection within one year.
2. Any chain which has deformed (stretched or bent) links must be replaced.
3. Only double-ring type or double shackle type swivels are permitted and must be replaced when ring or shackle pin is 33% worn. Swivels are only to be used between chain and pennant.
4. Shackles must be replaced when worn 33%. All shackles must be seized with electrical (plastic) wire ties or stainless steel wire.
5. Mushroom anchor eyes and shafts - wear must not exceed 33% of their diameter when new.
6. Mooring pennants with obvious chafing, stretching, or unlaying must be replaced. Approved pennant materials are nylon (strand or double braid), and pro-d (nylon and dacron).
7. Chain and tackle shall be supported by a floating mooring ball (hard plastic ball or inflated ball).
8. Mooring balls must be white with blue band and have the permit holder's last name and permit number legibly painted on same.
9. The Harbormaster shall assign all mooring locations.
10. Mooring inspections shall comply with all provisions contained in Sections 1008-1011 of the Town of Chatham Mooring Regulations.
11. Individual mooring owners may inspect their own mooring tackle using the Town of Chatham mooring specifications.
12. The use of U.S. made chain and hardware is recommended.

- (b) All moorings and mooring tackle shall be **inspected at least once every two years** by a qualified person.

*Qualified Mooring Inspectors (Waterways By-laws section 265-14(d):*

1. Must be able to supply, service, and/or repair all types of moorings in Chatham waters for which he/she has been qualified.
2. Must be able to install or replace all moorings in their original field or on a site assigned by the Harbormaster.
3. Inspectors must certify that mooring tackle and equipment complies with all Town of Chatham regulations including labeling mooring ball with permit # and permit holder's last name. The inspector shall provide to the Harbormaster a completed mooring inspection form for every inspection.
4. The issuance of a permit to become a qualified mooring inspector requires proof of liability insurance in the amount of \$250,000.
5. The Town of Chatham Harbormaster retains authority to manage all mooring activities, including issuing permits, inspections, and the collection of mooring permit fees.

6. Inspectors shall adhere to all Town of Chatham mooring regulations and by-laws.
  7. No law enforcement authority of any kind is authorized by the appointment of a mooring inspector.
  8. Inspectors with the approval of the mooring permit holder may inspect the mooring by hoisting from the water or by using a certified diver.
  9. Mooring inspectors shall be appointed for a three year period unless sooner suspended or revoked for failure to adhere to the mooring inspection guidelines set by the Harbormaster's Dept. and the Town of Chatham mooring regulations.
- (c) The Harbormaster may, at any time, inspect any mooring; and may remove or cause to be removed any mooring that fails to meet the provisions of these regulations or Town Bylaws.

#### **§1012 Moving, relocating, removal of moorings**

- (a) Moorings shall not be moved from an approved location without the prior approval of the Harbormaster.
- (b) If for any reason the approved location of a mooring is not adequate for the vessel, it shall be the responsibility of the permit holder / owner to move the mooring, within ten (10) days, to a new location approved by the Harbormaster.
- (c) In the event that a mooring is moved from its approved location by storm, ice or other cause, it shall be the responsibility of the permit holder / owner of the mooring to, at the earliest possible opportunity, but in no case later than fourteen (14) days from the date of the dislocation of the mooring is or could be discovered, relocate the mooring to the location originally approved, or to another location approved by the Harbormaster.
- (d) The Harbormaster may relocate, remove or cause to be removed or relocated any mooring or vessel whenever, in their judgment, the safety of other vessels or the maximum use of the area requires such action.
- (e) Any expense of such inspection, removal or relocation and any liability incurred therefore, shall be the responsibility of the permit holder / owner of said mooring.

#### **§1013 Transient / Temporary Permit Requirements**

- (a) The owner of any vessel moored in an approved location for a period of less than 2 weeks in the waters of Chatham shall **give notice to the Office of the Harbormaster** as to length of stay.
- (b) A marina, boatyard or sailing camp may move, for a period of not to exceed two weeks, a

properly permitted vessel among or between moorings assigned to them provided such a change is to a mooring of equivalent or greater capacity.

#### **§1014 Rental of moorings**

- (a) No person shall rent or lease a mooring unless authorized by the Harbormaster.
- (b) A commercial (rental) mooring shall have a “commercial mooring permit” issued by the Office of the Harbormaster.
- (c) Violation of this regulation may result in the revocation of the mooring permit, removal of the mooring, and non-criminal citation and fines consistent with Chapter 265 of the Town of Chatham General Bylaws.

#### **§1015 Two year rule**

- (a) When a permit holder / owner of a mooring discontinues the use of a mooring for the vessel described in the mooring permit, the permit holder / owner may retain the mooring location for a period not to exceed two (2) years, and the mooring may be used by another vessel as prescribed below.
- (b) If after two (2) years the permit holder / owner **does not own a vessel requiring the mooring**, the Harbormaster may reassign the mooring location.

#### **§1016 Mooring Float Regulations for Private Use**

1. A Mooring Float permit is required to moor a float at a mooring location in order to accommodate a second boat. Said permit may be issued by the Harbormaster subject to the following conditions:
  - a. That the request for a float to accommodate a second boat is for said second boat to be owned and registered to a member of the immediate family.
  - b. That said float permit is only issued to a current mooring permit holder with an additional fee charged for the 2<sup>nd</sup> boat on the float.
  - c. In addition to the above, float permits may be issued to a Commercial entity or individuals on a “special needs” basis (i.e. medial, elderly, or handicapped per the A.D.A.) at the Harbormaster’s discretion.
  - d. The float permit number and last name shall be attached to each end of float in 3” block letters of contrasting color.
2. Permits for Floats will be issued with particular consideration given to clear channels. Section 1002 (3) and environmentally sensitive resource areas. Section 1002 (4).
  - a. Size to be determined by the Harbormaster dependent on the size of vessel(s) with a maximum of 6 x 24 feet.

3. Mooring tackle specifications will be as specified by the Harbormaster.
4. Floats should have an attached boarding ladder and may have a storage box, with a maximum size of 2 x 4 feet fastened to the structure. No other items may be attached to the float. The storage box may not contain flammable liquids or other pyrotechnic materials.
5. Floats are for seasonal use only and must be removed by Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> each year unless permission is extended by the Harbormaster. New season launch date for floats shall be April 1<sup>st</sup> or later. The winter storage location must be reviewed and approved by the Harbormaster. In no case shall they be stored below the high tide line.
6. Whenever the 2<sup>nd</sup> side mooring requirement is no longer required by an immediate family member, with authorization of both float owner and the Harbormaster, 2<sup>nd</sup> side availability may be assigned to another permit holder or person on the waiting list, on a temporary basis, with approval of the Harbormaster. If the float is not reused by a family member within 2 years, the float permit may be revoked.
7. A mooring permit for a float shall not be transferred, except to a member of the immediate family, without the written approval of the Harbormaster.
8. Construction of the float shall be approved by the Harbormaster or his representative with particular emphasis on cleats which should be through bolted with backing plates.
9. Floats must be of a natural color. Environmentally sensitive bottom paint is permissible.
10. Float permits are issued annually and expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year they were issued. They may be revoked if any of the above regulations are violated.

**§1017 Moorings used by persons other than the permit holder.**

- (a) At times when a mooring is not being used by the mooring permit holder / owner, or when a mooring permit holder / owner has discontinued the use of a mooring the mooring may be used by another vessel, **provided prior approval is obtained from both the permit holder / owner of the mooring and the Harbormaster** subject to the following provisions:
  - (1) When a mooring is used by a vessel owned and operated by a person who is not the permit holder / owner of the mooring, it shall be the responsibility of the owner / operator of said vessel to maintain the mooring and leave it in the same condition as when first used by him.
- (b) If during the period of use by another vessel the mooring is lost, dislocated or damaged, the owner / operator of the vessel using the mooring shall be liable to the permit holder

/ owner of the mooring for a sum of money sufficient to recover, restore, renew or relocate the mooring to the approved location, and to the condition it was first used by him.

- (c) In areas where there is an established waiting list for mooring location assignment, the mooring permit holder **shall** notify the Harbormaster, in writing, that the mooring is available. The mooring shall be temporarily assigned to an individual on the waiting list by the Harbormaster.
- (d) The **person** using said mooring must submit all pertinent information on the boat involved to the Office of the Harbormaster, and shall pay the appropriate mooring fee.
- (e) The user will receive a sticker to be placed on the port (left) side of the vessel with the number corresponding to the tag on the mooring buoy.

#### **§1018 Waiting lists for mooring location assignment**

- (a) The Harbormaster will identify those locations which have achieved **maximum mooring saturation** and establish a **waiting list** for the issuance of mooring locations and permits for those areas.
- (b) A person desiring a mooring location in an area with a waiting list shall complete a **“Mooring Waiting List Application”**, and pay the initial fee.
- (c) The Harbormaster shall enter the name of the individual and a description of the vessel – chronological from the date the application is received – on the waiting list for the area requested.
- (d) A person shall not list more than two vessels on the waiting list for a given area.
- (e) Annually, by **15 March** of each year, the Harbormaster shall post, at the Office of the Harbormaster and Office of the Assistant Harbormaster / Wharfinger the current waiting list for each area.

#### **§1019 Assignment of mooring location in waiting list areas**

- (a) When a mooring location becomes available, the Harbormaster shall offer the site to the first individual on the waiting list with a **vessel appropriate** for the site.
- (b) If the individual chooses not to accept the location, the Harbormaster will contact the next appropriate vessel owner and so forth until the space has been assigned.
- (c) If a mooring in Aunt Lydias Cove that is assigned and permitted to an individual becomes unusable due to shoaling or other natural causes, the Harbormaster may assign said vessel

(exceeding 31' only) to a mooring that becomes available on a temporary basis. That relocated vessel shall return to its original location when the shoaling is removed or the natural cause has been abated.

#### **§1020 Waiting list renewal and removal from list**

- (a) Individuals on the waiting list will receive a “**Waiting List Renewal**” notice each year that must be returned to the Office of the Harbormaster indicating an intent (or not) to remain on the waiting list(s) and of any change in the information contained in the original application.
- (b) The form must be returned by **31 December, with the appropriate renewal fee**. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in removal from the waiting list.
- (c) An applicant who has failed to respond by **31 December** may petition the Harbormaster for reinstatement. If reinstated the person must pay the applicable **late fees**.
- (d) Any person who fails to notify the Office of the Harbormaster by **28 February** that they wish to remain on a waiting list and pay the appropriate fees shall be removed from that waiting list.

#### **§1021 Lost moorings.**

- (a) In the event that a mooring is lost it shall be the responsibility of the permit holder / owner to, at the earliest possible opportunity, locate, mark and properly identify said lost mooring.
- (b) If after six (6) months the permit holder / owner fails to locate, mark and properly identify a lost mooring, he shall relinquish the approved location, and the mooring may be removed by the Harbormaster.

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### **SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

#### **§1022 Anchoring**

- (a) **Stage Harbor:** Vessels may anchor, in Stage Harbor, on a temporary basis only, in the area on the south side of the dredged channel, west of Stage Harbor Buoy 8. In no case shall a vessel anchor in the dredged channel. Vessels shall not anchor in Stage Harbor in the inner harbor, east of Stage Harbor Buoy 8, or in the area on the north side of the dredged channel, west of Stage Harbor Buoy 8.
- (b) **All other areas:** Vessels may anchor with permission of the Harbormaster, but shall not anchor in a mooring area or channel.

#### **§1023 Live aboards**

Living aboard may be permitted at the discretion of the Harbormaster subject to the following conditions:

1. Permission restricted to mooring permit holders and transients with permission of the Harbormaster.
2. Permission shall be requested in advance, or on arrival. Each permission period shall be good for not more than 15 days, and may be renewed for not more than an additional 15 days, at the Harbormasters' discretion, for a total of no more than 30 days in a calendar year.
3. Before permission is granted, the boat shall be inspected by the Harbormaster for oil (or other contaminant) free bilges and a marine sanitation device with a holding tank and a lockable/sealable valve on any thru-hull discharge. This valve must be locked or sealed by the Harbormaster during the permission period.
4. The boat must use a pump-out facility on a schedule determined by the Harbormaster. Frequency dependent on the size of the tank and the number of occupants.
5. No more persons may live aboard a vessel than the vessel has accommodations.
6. No laundry may be hung where it may be visible from shore or other vessels.
7. No music or other sounds may be amplified to a disturbing level.
8. No garbage or trash shall be disposed of except in on-shore containers. Washing soap should be of the low nutrient, non-toxic variety. Detergents and cleaning compounds used aboard must be phosphate free and biodegradable. Use of detergents containing ammonia, hypochlorite, chlorinated solvents, petroleum distillates and lye are prohibited. Boats with onboard pets are required to dispose of pet feces in proper shore-side facilities. As per the Chatham Waterways By-laws, the discharge or disposal of petroleum products, dead fish or shellfish, fish frames, garbage, waste, rubbish or debris on the waters, shore or beaches is prohibited.
9. Permission may be terminated by the Harbormaster in the event excessive noise or cluttered appearance is deemed to be nuisance, or if any of the above conditions, Waterways By-laws, or Mooring Regulations are violated.

#### **§1024 Ramp Use Permit Regulations**

(a) **Ryder's Cove Town Ramp** - Vehicles displaying a Chatham resident sticker may use the boat ramp at Ryder's Cove for the launching and retrieving of vessels without obtaining a Ramp Use Permit. For the purpose of this regulation residents shall mean any lawful resident of the Town and/or any Chatham property tax payer or any current mooring permit holder in Chatham.

Outside the exemptions listed below, all visitors to the Town of Chatham desiring to use Ryder's Cove boat ramp must first obtain a Ramp Use Permit during the season for commercial fishing of striped bass in Massachusetts as identified by the MA Division of Marine Fisheries and ending September 30, excluding Labor Day weekend (Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.) No more than 60 permits will be issued during any one day on a first come, first serve basis. All users of the Ryder's Cove ramp during this period must first obtain a Ryder's Cove Ramp Use Permit issued by the Harbormaster. Permits may be purchased electronically or at the Harbormaster Office no earlier than 24 hours in advance at a daily rate of \$20.00 per permit. Permits are valid for only one 24 hour day (0000-2400), and are non-refundable. Permits can be purchased electronically by visiting the Town of Chatham web-site, and clicking the Daily Ramp Permit link on the Harbormaster page. Vehicles not displaying a current Chatham resident beach or transfer station sticker must display a current ramp permit or Chatham mooring permit on the vehicle's dashboard.

(b) **Barn Hill Landing Ramp** – Use of the Barn Hill Town Landing boat ramp is restricted to Chatham Residents, Chatham Non-Resident Property Taxpayers, current Chatham Mooring Permit Holders and Town Landing Special Use Permit Holders. This restriction is applicable only on days designated for the commercial fishing of striped bass in Massachusetts as identified by the MA Division of Marine Fisheries. Vehicles using this boat ramp must have a current Chatham Beach, Transfer Station or Recycle sticker affixed to the windshield of their vehicle. Non-Residents who wish to use the boat ramp at Barn Hill Landing must display a copy of their current processed mooring permit or Town Landing Special Use Permit on the driver's side dashboard of their vehicle. No other stickers are valid for purposes of launching your vessel at this landing.

Exemptions:

- Federal, state, county and municipal government agencies.
- Commercial boat haulers and marine contractors.

**Enforcement:** The provisions of this regulation may be enforced by the Harbormaster and Assistant Harbormasters, and the Coastal Resource Director. Violations of this regulation shall be issued to the vehicle owner and/or boat owner, and fines may be assessed up to \$200 per offense.

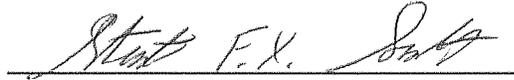
### **§1025 Penalties**

The owner of any vessel, mooring or other object not properly moored or not properly permitted, and anyone found in violation of these rules and regulations, shall be liable to a **non-criminal citation not to exceed \$200.00 per offense, removal of the mooring, vessel, or all three.**

### **§1026 Conformance with existing regulations**

Nothing in the above regulations shall be construed as altering in any way the content and meaning of provisions of Chapter 265 of the Town of Chatham Bylaws, State statute, or Code of Massachusetts Regulations.

**BY AUTHORITY OF THE HARBORMASTER  
TOWN OF CHATHAM**



Stuart F. X. Smith  
Harbormaster

Date: 8/22/14

The following sections have been modified and/or are new and revised on July 11, 2006:

- §1002 Definitions (14)
- §1006 Renewal of an existing permit (e)
- §1007 Mooring Fees - *revised by Board of Selectmen July 11, 2006*
- §1016 Mooring Float Regulations for private use – new
- §1023 Live Aboards – new

The following sections have been modified and/or new and revised on May 28, 2008:

- §1006 (b)(3) & (e) – Renewal of an existing permit
- §1007 (g) – Mooring Fees
- §1011 (a) – Mooring Inspection Guidelines
- §1011 (b) – Qualified Mooring Inspectors
- §1019 (c) – Wait List Exception, Aunt Lydias Cove
- §1020 (b) & (d) – Waiting List renewal and removal from list

The following sections have been modified and/or new and revised on January 25, 2011:

- §1024 Ryder’s Cove Town Float – Ramp Use Permit Regulations
- §1025 Penalties
- §1026 Conformance with existing regulations

The following sections have been modified and/or new and revised in November 2012:

- §1002 (15.) – Definitions
- §1007 (a) & (b) – Mooring Fees

The following sections have been modified and/or new and revised on August 5, 2013:

- §1024 Ramp Use Permit Regulations - (a) Ryder’s Cove Town Ramp & (b) Barn Hill Landing Ramp

The following sections have been modified and/or new and revised on August 22, 2014:

§1024 Ryder's Cove Town Float – Ramp Use Permit Regulations

§1010 Identification of vessels or other objects secured by mooring tackle