Please be aware of your family and your surroundings. Have a happy and ***safe*** summer!

LIGHTHOUSE BEACH AREA
& SURROUNDING MARINE AREAS
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

911

CHATHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT

(508) 945-2323

CHATHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

(508) 945-1212

TOWN OF CHATHAM
MASSACHUSETTS

SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK

Lighthouse Beach is a pristine walking beach and does not have lifeguards. Lighthouse Beach is swim at your own risk. The beach is monitored by beach patrols who are there to assess the beach conditions, educate the public and prevent and respond to emergencies. The patrols are not there to guard you or your family in the water. **The Lighthouse Beach patrols run from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily, starting in late June through Labor Day weekend.**

WARNING STRONG CURRENTS

Due to 3 fatalities and treacherous currents, sections of Lighthouse Beach area are closed to swimming and wading. No swimming areas are clearly marked by signs posted on the beach. Please pay attention to all signage. The signs are there to educate and protect the public.

RED FLAG SYSTEM

A flagpole at the top of the stairs leading to the beach and a second flagpole on the beach below the parking lot warns the public of dangerous conditions.

The red flag shown here indicates that all swimming is prohibited in that area.

SHARKS

Sharks are known to swim in the waters off of Chatham. Swim at your own risk and be aware of your surroundings. DO NOT swim in the vicinity of seals. Keep away from marine wildlife. Please obey all warnings and orders to clear out of the ocean waters when a shark is sighted.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

CHATHAM POLICE DEPT.	(508) 945-1213
CHATHAM FIRE DEPT.	(508) 945-2323
CHATHAM HARBORMASTER	(508) 945-5185
COAST GUARD	(508) 945-3830

LIGHTHOUSE BEACH AREA

NORTH BEACH ISLAND/INLET

SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK

North Beach Island does not have lifeguards or beach patrol. The beach is swim at your own risk. Please be aware of rip tides, surf conditions and dangerous currents.

NO SWIMMING AT THE CUT

The new inlet that divides North (Nauset) Beach and North Beach Island is closed to swimming. The currents are severe and treacherous. No floatation devices are allowed. There is absolutely no swimming in the cut by mandatory order of the Chatham Board of Health, the Harbormaster and the Park & Recreation Commission. Please pay attention to all signage.

BOATERS/KAYAKERS

The surf conditions and currents in the inlets are extremely dangerous. Anyone without local knowledge and experience should avoid using the inlets at all times. Small craft, sailing vessels, kayaks and boards of any kind should not use the inlets. They can be easily swept out to the ocean and into dangerous surf.

CHATHAM HARBOR

The currents are also very strong in Chatham Harbor. Ocean waves break in the harbor. Please pay attention to the tides and the shifting shoals. Schedule boating activities according to the tides. All vessels should heed the “Rough Bar” warning (quick flashing yellow light) at the Chatham Lighthouse Coast Guard Station. Careful operation and navigation is required by all mariners and swimmers.