

## Helpful Wardens

HARBORS DEPARTMENT employees patrol the grounds daily. Our wardens will enforce all ordinances and regulations.

Our wardens can answer any questions regarding clamming and will assist you with understanding our regulations.



PLEASE REMEMBER

- Obtain a recreational shellfish license from the town - it is required.
- Only harvest from town approved areas.
- Keep harvested shellfish cool.
- In warm weather bring cooler with ice to cool your harvest quickly.
- Never leave shellfish in direct sun or hot enclosed area such as car trunk.
- Refrigerate shellfish but do not store shellfish in water.
- Eat shellfish as soon as possible after harvest for maximum enjoyment.
- DO NOT consume raw if you have a challenged immune system (such as diabetes, liver disease, etc.).

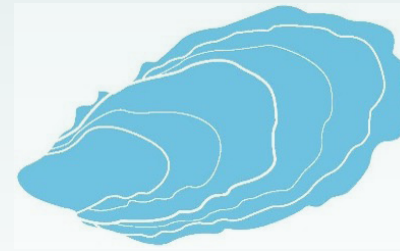
## Regulations

- **You must keep your license gauge on your person whenever you are shellfishing or transporting shellfish.**
- **You must re-bury undersize and seedling shellfish immediately. Failure to do so is considered possession of undersize.**
- You may not store or hang shellfish in the water in any container in the closed areas. This is a serious health risk and is strictly enforced.
- Shellfish gear must be stowed when transiting a closed area.
- You may not dig in or take shellfish from any of the closed areas.
- Digging in the barrier grasses is prohibited.
- **You may dig any time between sunrise and sunset.**
- Shellfishing during the hours of darkness is prohibited.
- **Using SCUBA equipment or breathing apparatus to take shellfish is prohibited. You may use a snorkel and mask.**
- **You may not use any powered equipment. The use of dip nets for scalloping is allowed.**
- **Any tongs or rakes used to take shellfish must be constructed with teeth no less than one-inch apart. If the rake has a basket the openings in the basket must be at least 1" x 2.5".**
- **All shellfish must be measured before being placed in your container.**



TOWN OF NEW SHOREHAM  
P.O. DRAWER 220  
BLOCK ISLAND, RI 02807

## 2026 SHELLFISH GUIDE



Your License Fee Helps:

## THE NEW SHOREHAM SHELLFISH COMMISSION

And

## THE HARBORS DEPARTMENT

Provide a viable, renewable clamming resource. Our rules and regulations are to benefit both clambers and shellfish. Our conservation and seeding efforts are to ensure the availability of this resource in the future. Please respect the **Great Salt Pond** and its fragile ecosystem.



CALL THE HARBORS DEPARTMENT OFFICE

**401-466-3204**

FOR HOURS OF OPERATION AND LOCATION



All persons **14 years and older** must obtain a New Shoreham Shellfish License prior to taking shellfish from the Great Salt Pond. Persons **under 14 years of age** must be accompanied by a licensed adult.



[www.newshorehamri.gov](http://www.newshorehamri.gov)

# Shellfish: Year Round Subject to Area Closures

(SEE MAP)

## SEASONAL QUANTITIES

Shellfish - Recreational  
Quantities Per Day

SPECIES	SUMMER SEASON 5/15/26-10/12/26	OFF SEASON 10/13/26-5/14/27
QUAHOGS	4QT	8QT
SEA CLAMS	4QT	8QT
MUSSELS	4QT	8QT

Scallop Season 11/7/26 - 12/31/26

Oyster Season 9/15/26 - 5/15/27

**SOFT SHELL CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE,  
UNLAWFUL TO TAKE**

## SIZE LIMITS

When you purchase a license, you will also need to purchase a gauge to **measure** all shellfish **prior** to placing them in your container!



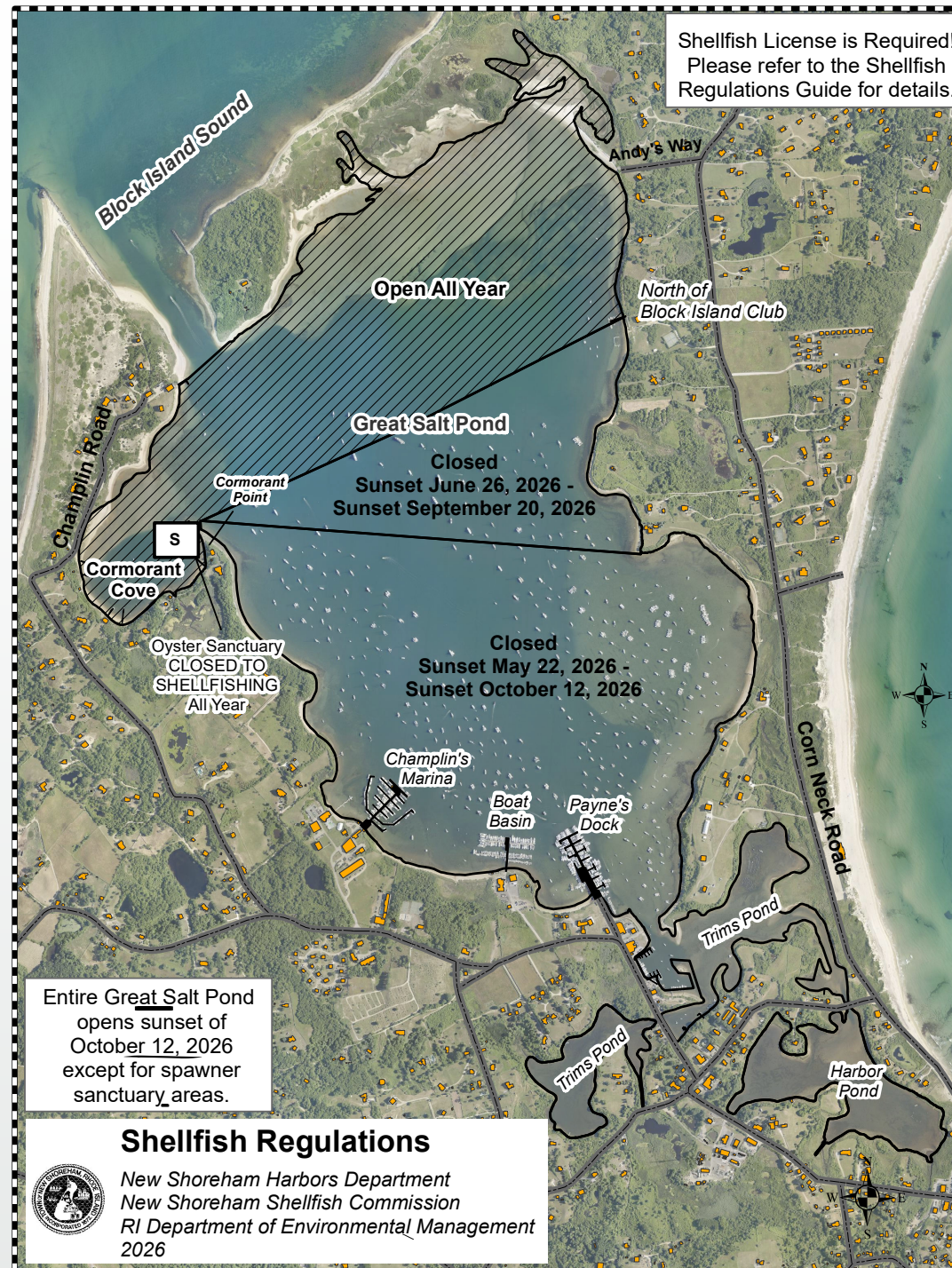
**QUAHOGS** (hard shell clams) must measure more than 1" across the hinge. They cannot fit through the center hole of the gauge.



**SEA CLAMS** (skimmers, surf clams) must measure 5" across the length of the shell.



**MUSSELS** must measure 2" or more, using the center hole of the gauge.



# Shellfish: Seasonal

## OYSTER SIZING



**OYSTERS** must measure 3" across the longest axis of the shell.

## SCALLOP SIZING



**SCALLOPS** must be 2nd year - a well-defined line will be visible near the middle of the shell.

**BLOCK ISLAND SCALLOP SEASON IS OPEN TO RHODE ISLAND RESIDENTS ONLY per RI STATE CODE 250-RICR-90-00-4.11.2**

## GROWING AREA 13 - BLOCK ISLAND

**Closure "A":  
Sunset of May 22 – Sunset of June 26**

In effect at sunrise of the Saturday immediately prior to Memorial Day through sunrise of the last Saturday in June - the waters of Great Salt Pond south of a line from the northern most extremity of Cormorant Point to the western most extremity of Harris Point including all waters of Trims Pond and Harbor Pond.

**Closure "B":  
Sunset of June 26 – Sunset of September 20**

In effect at sunrise of last Saturday in June through sunrise of the third Monday in September - all waters of Great Salt Pond, south of a line from the northernmost extremity of Cormorant Point to the northern most landward dock located at the Block Island Club, including all waters of Trims Pond and Harbor Pond.

**Closure "C":  
Sunset of September 20 – Sunset of October 12**

In effect at sunrise of the third Monday in September through sunrise of the Tuesday immediately following Columbus Day - the waters of Great Salt Pond south of a line from the northernmost extremity of Cormorant Point to the westernmost extremity of Harris Point, including all waters of Trims Pond and Harbor Pond.