



SHELLFISH COMMISSION
TOWN HALL – 110 MYRTLE AVENUE
WESTPORT, CT 06880
P 203.341.1087 F 203.341.1088

WESTPORT™

December 2021

Dear Fellow Shellfishers,

Thank you for your interest in Westport's recreational shellfishing program.

Careful and proactive management of shellfish beds is a hallmark of the Town of Westport's shellfish program. This year, the Westport Shellfish Commission managed a successful program despite some significant storm events periodically closing the beds in the summer and early fall. We issued 582 annual recreational shellfishing permits and transplanted more than 600 bushels of clams from our Saugatuck River nursery to our recreational beds.

There were questions this past year regarding the shellfish hotline 203-838-9807. The shellfish hotline covers Darien, Norwalk and Westport and originates from the Norwalk Health Department. The CT Bureau of Aquaculture, who does the water quality testing, is responsible for updating the hotline as the areas become opened and closed. This year, we have received several calls reporting issues of the hotline going offline especially over the weekend and have had to wait for someone at the Dept. of Health to resolve them. We will continue to work with the various agencies to ensure this is resolved. Please remember to always call the hotline phone number on your permit to determine if recreational shellfish beds are open before going out: 203-838-9807.

Enclosed is your application for a 2022 Westport Shellfishing Permit valid from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Getting your permit now will ensure you of uninterrupted access to shellfish resources. All applications **must** be signed and **must** include a copy of your most recent photo identification and current address. If possible, we do ask that you send in your applications by mail. Typically, we are able to issue permits within only a few days after receiving applications. Otherwise, you may come in person via the front entrance to the Westport Town Hall.

Please bring or mail:

- **completed and signed application**
- **copy of your current driver's license or photo identification, which includes an address**
- **permit fee** (see back side of the application)

to: **Westport Shellfish Commission
110 Myrtle Avenue, Room 205
Westport, CT 06880**

If you need more applications and/or would like more information, please visit our website:
www.westportct.gov under the tab Government/Appointed Boards/Shellfish Commission or call our office.

As always, we welcome your comments.

Sincerely,

Heather Williams
Chairman, Westport Shellfish Commission

Enclosures