

December 2022

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 with a spring transplant. We issued 554 annual recreational shellfishing permits.

This has been a spectacular season for recreational shellfishing. We have recorded only 66 closure days of this writing. The recreational beds are automatically closed after a rainfall event of 1.5 inches or if there is an environmental event, such as a sewage spill. It is important to call the hotline **203-838-9807** before you clam to ensure the recreational beds are open.

Enclosed is your application for a 2023 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 issue permits within a few days of 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: <a href="https://www.westportct.gov">www.westportct.gov</a> under the tab Government/Appointed Boards/Shellfish Commission or call our office.

As always, we welcome your comments.

Sincerely,

Heather Williams Chair Westport Shellfish Commission

**Enclosures**