



Manchester-by-the-Sea Harbormaster **Harbormaster**

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THE WATERLINE

Greetings Boaters,

It is almost time to go apple picking and have a few cider donuts over at the orchard in Essex.

Life Jacket Loaner Kiosks and Float Plan Boxes

Hello all paddle sport folks, just a reminder that starting September 15th until May 15th you are required to wear your PFD. If you need a PFD please take advantage of the loaners available at the kiosks at all town piers or contact the harbormaster. You can also fill out a float plan and leave it at the kiosk or file it with the harbormaster. Plan ahead, return home, enough said.

Gift

Thank you Jon Leavitt for your generous gift of \$250 toward new loaner life jackets, all the money will be used to purchase children's lifejackets, most of which will go on the kiosk at Tuck's Point. Your contribution will protect children for years to come. Thanks also to the anonymous donors who left life jackets at kiosks around town. Your gifts are greatly appreciated.

New Float

Assistant Tom and I will be constructing a replacement float over the next few days. The new float, when complete, can be viewed and trod upon behind town hall.

Stickers

2014 waterway permit stickers should be in the harbormasters office by next week. If you are going away for the winter please renew before you leave so that you do not miss the

March 31st renewal deadline. Please call or stop by the office to complete your renewal, you must speak with the harbormaster to complete the renewal.

Mooring Map

An overlay of the moorings is now posted on the town website. To access the map go to the home page on the town website and click on “mapping”. Click on “go to map” and check the mooring box from the drop down list on the right side of your screen. At this point the harbor will be a mostly orange blob, using the tool bar you can zoom in and see individual points. Now you can choose the “i” information button on the tool bar, click an individual mooring and the mooring holders name and boat information will come up on the screen. Please note that some moorings are out of position, while collecting co-ordinates this summer I made the mistake of trusting a few co-ordinates that already existed in the database. Every effort will be made to clean up these errors.

Volunteer

Many thanks to Constance Shute for helping the harbormaster with some important bookkeeping, records research and filing projects, I am most great full for the assistance.

Marine Mammals

A **beached whale, dolphin or porpoise** should be reported immediately and left alone pending further instruction. **Call the New England Aquarium's 24-hour Marine Animal Hotline: (617) 973-5247.** Please try to remain calm and leave your name and a phone number where you can be reached.

Sea turtles in our region do not typically come ashore unless they are seriously debilitated. **Call the New England Aquarium's 24-hour Marine Animal Hotline: (617) 973-5247.** Please try to remain calm and leave your name and a phone number where you can be reached.

Seals belong on the beach. It's normal. Please don't disturb them. Unlike whales or dolphins, seals are semi-aquatic and are comfortable out of the water. Most seals come onto beaches to sleep, nurse or soak up some sun.

What should you do if you spot a seal on the beach?

Seals are cute, but they are wild animals and should not be disturbed. By getting too close, you could upset the seal or possibly get bitten.

- **Watch quietly** from at least 150 feet away.
- **Keep dogs away** from the seal.
- **Do not** offer the seal food or water.

- **Do not** pour water on the seal or try to cover it with a towel or blanket.
- **Do not** try to make the seal move.
- **Does the seal look injured or unhealthy?**

Most seals on the beach are perfectly healthy, but sometimes they do need human assistance. Does the seal have any **obvious injuries, gunky eyes, or look skinny or underweight**? If the seal does, please take notes on its location, size, coloring and behavior and call the New England Aquarium's Marine Animal Hotline at **(617) 973-5247**.

All marine mammals are protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act. This law makes it illegal to touch, disturb, feed or otherwise harass marine mammals without authorization.

Harbormaster Hours

Monday or Wednesday	8:30AM-4:30PM
Thursday	9AM-8PM
Friday	10AM-5PM
Saturday	10AM-5PM
Sunday	10AM-5PM

Due to meeting schedules Harbormaster days off will alternate each week from Tuesday and Wednesday to Monday and Tuesday. This schedule may change as need dictates. Feel free to call before coming to the office. The Harbormaster can be reached by cell phone (978) 473-2520.

The latest Local Notice to Mariner's can be found on the harbormaster portion of the town website. Be vigilant and notify the harbormaster of any missing or off station aids to navigation. The latest Manchester Harbor Rules & Regulations are posted on the Harbormaster website.

Stop by, say hi and don't forget your lifejacket! You can follow harbor happenings on the town website under Harbormaster or Facebook at Manchester Harbormaster Department. Updated as often as is practical.