



Harbormaster

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The Waterline

September 2019

Greetings Boaters,

Sorry for the two month hiatus of the Waterline.

Waterfront Projects

Reed Park – A real success! To date the facility has collected \$13,000 in transient fees for the harbor. In addition the inner harbor was as well managed as it ever has been with the Dock master staff holding down the fort by enforcing the one hour tie-up and appropriate use of the commercial docks.

Thanks to the dock staff for a job well done! I owe a debt of gratitude to Maddie, Max, Hailey and Elizabeth for helping so many boaters who came to Manchester to patronize our merchants

Visitor Center / Harbor Office

A Steering Committee comprised of members from, Planning, DIP, Parks and Rec, Harbor Advisory as well as the BOS has been formed to evaluate potential sites for a Visitor Center / Harbor Office.

The location and design of this building is undetermined with nothing to present to the residents yet. As part of the process a firm (Tetra Tech) has been hired to assess potential sites and provide the Town with best options. Public hearings will be held to ensure that residents can provide critical feedback.

After eight years of observation I feel that Reed Park is the most appropriate site for this facility. The vast numbers of vessels that traditionally visit the harbor come to Reed Park in order to patronize downtown businesses. This facility has long been overwhelmed by these visitors. Before I came to Manchester in 2012 the Harbor Department was instructed to write tickets to all vessel owners violating usage regulations at Reed Park, 220 were issued in one season. The situation was improved in 2019 by the expansion of the docking facility and the efforts of the dock masters assisting boaters to ensure appropriate use at all the docks in downtown. The facility should be located where there is the greatest impact.

While I cannot say that absolutely every New England waterfront community has such a facility I can say with confidence that the majority do. In most cases there are public restrooms serving boaters, tourists and residents alike. Showers are often available for a charge to transient boaters.

Observation of the park shows a vibrant attractive space used by many residents and visitors with the exception of the area of untended arbor vitae adjacent to the tracks. Within the footprint of this vegetation would seem a good location, with some caveats. Several people have expressed valid concern about

potential impacts.

- Absolutely no removal or harm to the trees in the park
- No loss of greenspace on the lawn
- No loss of sightlines of the harbor from the street.

In addition several times a distress call has come in to the harbormaster while working in the office and I have responded by driving downtown hoping for a place to park or decided to run across the parking lot and down the train tracks to get to the boat. No one would ever expect police or fire responders to run a quarter of a mile to get to response apparatus. Lives depend on timely response.

A facility in Reed Park does not in any way suggest that there should be no other restrooms at other parks. In the event this facility is built most if not all of the cost would come through grant funding and harbor usage fees. This is in keeping with other waterfront projects where the goal continues to be a harbor that has minimal or no impact on tax payers while encouraging commerce to businesses.

This is not the only location being considered, just an opinion and observation.

It is possible to have this important building without a large impact on public space. Please feel free to provide continued feedback to the harbormaster, give a call.

Outboards and Covers

A reminder to boat owners that all outboard motors attached to boats on moorings must be covered or kept in the down position if a neighboring boat could be hit and damaged. Any damage caused by an outboard without a cover will be the responsibility of that boat owner. We have one damaged vessel already; please get those covers on so I do not have to make a call to you.

Dredge Committee

Monday Sept. 16th @5PM. Location Seaside One.

Harbor Advisory Committee

Adjourned until fall.

Safe Boating Class

Coming in October.

Public Comment

None at this time (but always welcome).

Oil Spill Drill – Manchester Harbor

On Monday September 16th members of the Manchester Fire, Police and Harbor Departments along with the City of Beverly, USCG and Nuka Research will be conducting an oil spill drill in Manchester Harbor. On water activity will include deploying oil booming in front of Days Creek entrance to the harbor. Equipment from Manchester and Beverly will be deployed from Masconomo Park starting late morning and finishing by 4PM. Please see the map on the following page for the area to be used for this exercise.

The purpose is to prepare waterfront communities in the event of a major oil spill in methods to best protect fragile marine environments such as marsh and wetlands.

Appendix C: ICS 201

1. Incident Name: 2019 Manchester/Beverly GRPEX	2. Incident Number: 63-19	3. Date/Time Initiated: 16SEP19
4. Tactics Map: 		
5. Situation Summary and Health and Safety Briefing (for briefings or transfer of command): An oil spill has occurred that threatens Manchester Bay and Manchester Harbor. The Manchester and Beverly Fire Departments and Harbormaster staffs will utilize GRP NS-21 to deploy boom to protect sensitive resources in Manchester Harbor and the surrounding area. Recognize potential incident Health and Safety Hazards and develop necessary measures (remove hazard, provide personal protective equipment, warn people of the hazard) to protect responders from those hazards.		
6. Prepared by: Name: M. Popovich		Position/Title: Exercise Controller
ICS 201, Page 1		Date/Time: 16SEP19

Towing Insurance

What happens when you breakdown or run out of gas or some other unforeseen event that ruins a perfectly nice boating day? If you are lucky enough to be in an area where the community allows towing by the harbormaster help is nearby and probably free. Many communities including Manchester do not allow towing unless there is risk to life or property involved, otherwise you will pay large sums for towing service.

It would be wise to consider the purchase of towing insurance from your insurance company, Sea-tow or Tow Boat US. For a reasonable rate you will potentially avoid thousands in towing fees.

Helpful Links

- **Massachusetts Boating Law Chapter 90B:**
If you ever wondered what Harbormasters and other law enforcement agencies were doing out on the water pulling over boaters here is your opportunity to understand what all the blue

lights are about. The link below will take to the boating laws for the State of Massachusetts. Some snowy day reading today may keep the harbormaster away.

<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleXIV/Chapter90B>

- **Smart Boating:**

is a locally produced TV show on boating. The show typically contains information to help boaters make more informed decisions, and have more fun on the water. Over the past ten years, over 200 TV shows have been produced which air locally on Cape Ann TV, Channel 12, Tuesday nights at 8pm. Currently, all shows can also be viewed at any time on the website – www.smartboatingus.com

- **Stand-up Paddle Boarding Safety:**

<https://www.boatus.com/magazine/2017/august/stand-up-paddleboarding-safety.asp>

- **Now Accepting Applications to Manchester Harbor Boat Club:**

On behalf of the Board of Governors, thank you for taking the time to review the MHBC website. In the meantime, if you have any website questions or general comments, please do not hesitate to contact us. Happy boating this 2018 season, <http://www.manchesterharborboatclub.org/main.html>

- **Kidde Recalls Fire Extinguishers**

If you have a Kidde extinguisher on your vessel please check this take a moment to check this link. <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/kidde-recalls-fire-extinguishers-with-plastic-handles-due-to-failure-to-discharge-and#.WgTs91wXdXw.email>

- **Towing Services**

Seatow (Yellow boat)

<https://www.seatow.com/membership>

Towboat US (Red Boat)

https://www.boatus.com/MembershipWeb_Main/Membership/personalbuytowing.aspx

- **Massachusetts Environmental Police “Change of Status” forms**

<https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2016/08/nf/statuschangeform.pdf>

Manchester Draw Hours of Operation

§ 117.603 Manchester Harbor. Effective: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Bridge at mile 1.0 in Manchester shall operate as follows:

(a) The draw shall open on signal-

(1) From Memorial Day through September 30 from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.;

(2) From April 1 to Memorial Day and from October 1 to

November 1 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 6p.m.

(b) **At all other times**, the draw shall open on signal with at least four hours of notice.

Call (617) 222-6114

The owner of this bridge shall provide and keep in good legible condition, clearance gauges for each draw with figures not less than twelve (12) inches high designed, installed and maintained in accordance with

the provisions of section 118.160 of this chapter.

Marine Mammals

A beached whale, dolphin or porpoise should be reported immediately and left alone pending further instruction. Call the NOAA 24-hour Marine Animal Hotline: (866) 755-6622. 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 NOAA 24-hour Marine Animal Hotline: (866) 755-6622.** 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?**
- **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 NOAA Marine Animal Hotline at **(866) 755-6622 or call your Harbormaster.**

Most seals on the beach are perfectly healthy, but sometimes they do need human assistance. 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.

Community Events

Manchester 375th Anniversary.

TOWING POLICY

Manchester Harbormaster only tows those vessels that are in immediate danger or present a potential environmental hazard. Please contact a towing or salvage operator should you need to be towed.

July Harbormaster Hours

Monday	9AM-5PM
Thursday	9AM-5PM
Friday	9AM-5PM
Saturday	9AM-5PM
Sunday	9AM-5PM

Days and hours will vary depending on training, safe boating courses and meetings. Feel free to call before coming to the office.

The Harbormaster can be reached by cell phone or email.

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.

Boats for Sale



Orcas: 28' Sabre for Sale

Built in 1976, draws 3'8". Universal diesel engine new in 2015; replaced head 2014; new halyards 2017. Sails are in good shape @ 5 yrs. old.

Navigational equipment includes Furuno radar, VHF radio and hand held GPS. Electrical system in working order – needs updating. Lots of extras including bumpers, dock lines, life sling, jack stands, inflatable dingy that needs wooden transom replaced.

Orcas is a GREAT cruising boat. We have cruised the Maine coast on Orcas for the past 16 years.

Asking price: \$19,500. Offers welcome.

Contact owner: John Harwood 508-380-2527 or
raccoonjack@comcast.net



Stainless Steel Bow Rail for Sale

currently on a 32' BHM (blue vessel in photo) and is in very good condition. Owner has no use. Best reasonable offer. **781-640- 2642**



\$300 for the Johnson & \$400 for the Honda call 617-571-0756