

Town of Barnstable - Harbormasters Office
Non-Designated Mooring Area Policy

This policy is to cover all saltwater areas not otherwise considered a common mooring field by the Harbormasters Office. The goal of this policy is to guide the Harbormasters Office in issuing individual mooring permits outside of the general mooring areas.

Factors that shall be taken into account when considering issuing mooring permits in these areas include, but not limited to: waterfront property ownership, designated shellfish relay and grant areas, public navigation, public recreation, restricting the historic use of the area by other user groups, type and location of waterfront access, a need, and compatibility with town codes. This policy does not expressly or by implication create any new mooring areas that are outside of common mooring areas and waiting list areas. Each request will be determined on a case by case basis.

Issuance of any mooring permit under this policy shall be monitored for abuse or incompatibility with other uses. Said permits are issued on an annual basis and may be rescinded or not renewed.

This policy shall not contradict any town code or regulation.

Guidelines/Applicability

Only vessel owners that are also waterfront property owners may apply. Further such moorings will only be allowed at such property.

Strict adherence to all mooring regulations including timelines. Failure to submit renewals on time shall be cause to not reissue said permit.

These locations will not be considered “open”, and be taken on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Harbormasters Office.

Restrictions may be applied for certain size/draft of vessels. New or special anchoring systems may be required at the permittees expense.

Moorings will not be allowed anywhere that may impede navigation.

In the event the vessel owner no longer has access they must notify the Harbormasters Office and relinquish said mooring permit.

Moorings will not be granted in state designated shellfish relay areas or upon licensed shellfish grants. Designations of areas defined as high value shellfish area will be avoided.

Mooring permits shall not be issued to properties that a mooring was relinquished pursuant to a dock/pier license.

Mooring permits will not be issued for vessels that have adequate dock space on the property.

(October 2006)