SHELLFISH REGULATIONS FOR THE KINGSTON, MA  

GENERAL REGULATIONS:  SEASON: APRIL 1, 2019 THRU OCTOBER 31, 2019  

1. Non-Criminal Disposition of Violations  
   (a) Anyone violating any provision of these Shellfish Regulations shall be subject to a penalty of $25.00 for each offense, $50.00 for each second offense, and $100.00 and loss of permit for 1 year for each third offense.  
   (b) Each violation of each provision shall constitute a separate offense. For continued violations, each day or portion thereof during which a violation is continued shall constitute a separate offense.  
   (c) The provisions of the Kingston Non-Criminal Disposition Regulation and M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 21D shall apply to violations of these regulations. The regulations may be enforced by the Harbormaster/Shellfish officer any assistant or deputy Harbormaster/Shellfish officer, or any Kingston Police officer.  

2. A signed permit must be kept on the person of anyone in the act of harvesting shellfish, eels, or sea worms. This permit must be shown on demand to the Shellfish Constable or his Deputies.  

3. Any Shellfish, eels, or sea worms harvested must be shown on demand to the Shellfish Constable or his Deputies for inspection.  

4. There shall never be a greater limit than eight (8) quarts per day and sixteen (16) quarts per week per person of combined species.  

5. The harvesting of shellfish, eels, and sea worms shall be on Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and shall be done between the hours of sunrise and sunset.  

6. All shellfish and sea worms shall be dug with conventional tined tools. No shovels or plunging devices are permitted and digging must be by hand without the assistance of any type of power or machinery.  

7. It is prohibited to dig or take shellfish or sea worms in grass or close to roots of any marsh.  

8. It is unlawful to remove the shells from shellfish before leaving the digging area.  

9. Quahogs must be 1” (inches) at the hinge, soft-shell clams must be 2” (inches) in length, oysters 3” (inches) and razor clams 4” (inches).  

10. No container larger than 8 quarts is allowed on shore creek or inlet.  

11. Permits are required for all persons over the age of 14. Those 14 and younger must be accompanied by a permit holder whose limit is not increased by the presence of the child.  

12. It is unlawful for a person to harvest any part of another’s limit.  

13. No shellfish may be sold, wasted, or bartered in any manner.  

14. The holder of permits issued for digging and taking of shellfish, eels, and sea worms shall conform to Chapter 130 of the M.G.L. and any subsequent amendments thereto.  

15. License Fees Per Person:  Residents 70 years or older FREE, MUST HAVE LICENSE; 62 - 69 years $15.00; Residents under 62 years $40.00; Non-Residents $100.00 which includes a parking permit conditional for Grays Beach; Short Term Lessor $300.00 per property; Massachusetts Resident Veterans 70 years or older FREE, MUST HAVE LICENSE; 62 - 69 years $15.00; under 62 years $40.00  

16. IT IS ILLEGAL TO DIG SHELLFISH BETWEEN YELLOW MARKERS, BUOYS OR 20’ (TWENTY) FEET OF NETS. MARKERS INDICATE TOWN OF KINGSTON AQUACULTURE AREA – VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED.  

EXCEPTIONS  

A. Shell fishing is closed for 5 days after .3” (3/10ths) of rainfall, conditionally approved areas only.  
B. To see if the beds are open on a given day, you must call the recorded message at (781) 585-0519.  

GENERAL REGULATIONS 1-17 ALSO APPLY IN THE CONDITIONAL RAINFALL AREA.  

C—Kingston Bay Center (Conditionally Approved) (Closed 5 days after <0.3” Rainfall).  
“The waters, flats and all tributaries of that portion of Kingston Bay in the Towns of Duxbury and Kingston, northerly of a line drawn from Peck Street in the Town of Kingston to the stone pier at Howland’s Landing in the Town of Duxbury; easterly of a line drawn from the “NO SHELLFISHING” sign on the beach at 56 Shore Road (The Gazebo) in the Town of Kingston to Cripple Rocks to the “NO SHELLFISHING” sign on the beach at 5 Surfside West in the Town of Duxbury”.  

B—Boundary Lane (PROHIBITED, NO SHELLFISH)  
“The waters, flats and all tributaries of that portion of Kingston Bay, in the Town of Kingston, between the sign located on the shore at the extension of Peck Street to the water’s edge and the Kingston/Plymouth town boundary marker at Boundary Lane and seaward of each sign for 200’.”  

A—Kingston Bay East (APPROVED, NO RAIN CLOSURE)  
The water, flats, and all tributaries of that portion of Kingston Bay in the Town of Duxbury and Kingston easterly of a line drawn from the sign located on the shore at the extension of Peck Street to the water’s edge in the Town of Kingston to Howland Landing in the Town of Duxbury, and westerly of a line drawn from the Kingston/Plymouth town boundary marker at Boundary Lane to Goose Point in the Town of Duxbury.